ine WEEKLY

K.R.S. ANNUAL MEETING

See page 3.

Watch for "THE HUMAN COMEDY"—growing fast to prize-winning stature!

Born to break records!

Bred for staying power in the long runs!

Trained by the production genius and showmanship of Metro-Goldmine-Mayer

the *Thoroughbred* Company!

ROM THE AME STABLE!

IN WHICH WE SERVE

Reader's Digest

probably a[illegible] than now[illegible] and your fel[illegible]
d are. Americans.

"In Which We Serve" *By* ALEXANDER WOOLLCOTT

EACH READER, for his own sake, is hereby advised to let nothing short of bubonic plague prevent his seeing the movie which so skillfully, so honestly and so proudly presents the life and death of a British destroyer. *In Which We Serve* is the most moving picture of them all. To see it is an experience at once humbling and heartening. One does come away from it cheered up about such precarious enterprises as the war, the English-speaking peoples and the human race.

This has been accomplished in the one medium which knows no frontier by a man who could add to a hard-earned professional competence a dash of genius. The resources of the British navy, as never before for such a purpose, were placed at his disposal; the resources of Noel Coward, as never before for any purpose, were placed at the disposal of the British navy, its men at sea and their folks at home.

Before next Christmas the resulting work of collaboration will have been seen wherever the writs of Hitler and Hirohito do not run. Territory available for its showing will increase in 1943

...GRAPH W... 6/5/1943

Kinematograph WEEKLY

No. 1,881. Thursday, May 6, 1943. Vol. 315

The Little that is so much!
WALT DISNEY PRODUCTIONS

PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMFORT IN JEOPARDY

Effect of New Call-up

C.E.A. SUPINENESS CRITICISED

DEMANDS on the existing women-power of kinemas have reached a stage in some areas where exhibitors are seriously considering the advisability of closing down.

The situation is particularly serious in war-work areas where trained women are now being directed into industry. Substitute women are proving inefficient in their normal front-of-the-house duties, and, more important, are incapable of complying with the minimum safety regulations of local authorities.

Criticism is directed towards the alleged inactivity of the C.E.A. headquarters in face of the growing demands of the Ministry of Labour, which it is contended have failed to implement the assurance of the various Ministers as to the importance of the kinema entertainment in war-time.

Public authorities are rightly very exacting in their requirements for public safety, and exhibitors are seeing their alert and dependable women, whom they have trained to undertake responsibility at the request of the local authority, taken away, and older substitute women supplied who in a time of emergency would be helpless and hopeless.

Firmer Attitude Needed

Despite the otherwise excellent work performed by the C.E.A. in its contacts with Government Departments, many members of the Association feel that a firmer attitude by deputations, as the situation has grown more serious, would have safeguarded the position and have prevented its deterioration to the present level.

Essential War Work

That the Government could not afford to see kinemas shut wholesale because of its effect on public morale is proved by the action of one exhibitor who, threatened with the loss of front-of-the-house women on whom he could rely in kinemas which he owned, declared his intention of closing down, not as mere bluff, but as a fixed intention to gain relief from an intolerable situation.

The kinemas in question are in an area where a number of munition firms operate, and the exhibitor's intention to close secured for him relief from the threatened loss of his women usherettes.

Inefficient Substitutes

When one remembers the insistence by Government Departments a couple of years ago that every kinema employee should be thoroughly trained in A.R.P. duties and allotted a special duty in the kinema in order to secure orderly exit in an emergency, the existence now of untarined elderly women incapable of quick movement is a farce if it is not a menace.

Newsreel Contracts

LONDON AND H.C. DISSATISFACTION

...issatisfaction with the clause ... the supplementary newsreel ...tract which compels an exhibi... to continue taking a newsreel ...il the Film Stock Order is ...oked is to be brought before the ...A. General Council by London ...mbers.

... is argued that exhibitors ...uld have the right to cancel the ...wsreel if ... ...ertainment condi... ...s render it ...dvisable. It is con... ...vable that ... some districts a ...gle picture ...pported by variety ...uld prove ... attractive than ...ditional film ... and thus the news... ...l would be ...undant. But the ...ibitor would ... have no means of ...aining relief ... under the supple... ...ntary contract ... agreed to by the ...A.

...he decision ... bring the problem ...re the General ... Council was taken ...officers of ... London and Home

Continued on page 32

A.C.T. Presidency Void

...t a meeting of the Council of the Associa... Cine Technicians ... Monday ... consideration was ...en to the ... ...on arising from the ...dstrawal from ... presidency of the ... Hon. A... ... Asquith, which ...es the post ... ant. ...o action was ...ken to fill the posi... ...n the decision ... ...ing reached to leave ...matter open ... the present.

C.M.A. Reply to C.E.A.

G.P. REPORT WAS AN "IMPROPER JIBE"

A LENGTHY statement issued by the C.M.A. declares that the recent report of the C.E.A. General Purposes Committee has a sinister aspect, in that it veils a threat to "discourage managers from joining the C.M.A.," and, moreover, infers "the employers' contempt for the man and the manager."

The statement issued to the Press runs to some 1,200 words and deals fully with the report of the General Purposes Committee to the General Council on a C.M.A. "charter."

The C.M.A. statement argues that by the C.E.A. report, that association has virtually denied its right to exist, as every C.E.A. member is *ipso facto* a Trade unionist, subject to Trade Union rules, and members who are not proprietors or renters of kinemas "are in the position of having to receive instructions, both from their employers and from the officials and committees of the C.E.A."

Logic and Loyalty

Having thus interpreted the manager membership of the C.E.A. the statement argues that the C.E.A. should at once expel and advise the dismissal from his job of every one of its members who is not the proprietor or renter of a kinema, because all such members are "in a position of having to accept instructions from outside sources."

"Is not the C.E.A. an outside body in relation to boards of

Continued on page 32

LONDON KINEMA SABOTAGE

Rectifier and Sound Panel Damaged

Wilful damage was caused at the Regal, Harrow Road, during the night of Saturday last, which prevented the kinema being opened on Sunday.

It was discovered upon entering the projection suite that rectifier bulbs had been smashed and the sound panel damaged.

As the kinema is left open at night as an A.R.P. precaution, it is thought that the act of sabotage was committed during the hours of darkness.

The police have the matter under investigation.

Renters' Quota Returns

HOW EXTRA FOOTAGE PLAN HELPED

THE final return of Board of Trade registration under the old policy of multi-quota productions shows that renters quota production was 18.03 per cent., as against the statutory requirement of 20 per cent.

Board of Trade registrations of British feature films amounted to 62 for the period ending March 31, 1943, as compared with 53 in the previous period; 45 of these counted as renters' quota in the following proportion: single, 17; double, 20; and treble, 8, as compared with 18, 16 and 10 respec-

Continued on page 32

£82,000 PURCHASE

Odeon Bidding for Tees-side Halls

It is understood that the price paid by Odeon Cinemas for the Majestic, Darlington, is in the neighbourhood of £82,000.

According to a KINE. correspondent efforts are being made to purchase kinemas for the Odeon at Stockton and West Hartlepool, but they are not likely to be successful.

The Latest News ON BRITISH MOVIETONE

KINEMATOGRAPH WEEKLY
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LOCAL P.R.O.'s?

NEVER before has the kinema been so widely recognised by the public and the authorities alike as an essential service to the community. And because it is everywhere acknowledged as an important feature of civilised life one may reasonably express surprise at the recent demands for Public Relations Officers to represent the Industry in its contacts with the outside world.

The anxious war period has seen us well and efficiently representing our particular viewpoints to the Government, and it has to be said that at no time have our approaches been more courteously received or more carefully considered than they are to-day. We are fortunate in the personalities of the administrators we meet, perhaps, but clearly a great deal of the credit for this is due to the quality of the men we have chosen to act as our diplomats.

As far as the conduct of the Trade in its reaction to Whitehall is concerned, we can therefore feel satisfied. The point now brought up is a suggested extension in the direction of a series of provincial representatives, ready to tackle, on behalf of the exhibitors of the district, any outside body.

In normal times the Trade might have done well to appoint such officials. To-day, with our recognition that practically all our anxieties arise from our country's life struggle, we feel we cannot agree with any scheme which would achieve no more than can be managed by exhibitors themselves, either individually or through their branches.

While we effectively take care of Trade politics in dealing with the high Government officers of state, as we certainly have done, we may reasonably limit our demands upon our own man-power by allowing exhibitors in the areas to carry on with their own local affairs as in the past.

Long Shots

A WELL-DESERVED tribute to Sam Smih's persevering and successful work as President of the K.R.S. during three perplexing war years was accorded him at the close of his period of Presidency on Tuesday last.

IT has been a period full of difficulty, but carrying with it a fine record of achievement patiently sought and perseveringly pursued. This is the more noteworthy in that he has seen his own distributing organisation, British Lion, go from strength to strength during his term of office, its crowning triumph being the widespread success of "In Which We Serve."

HIS successor, Major Baker, who took over from S. W. on his nomination being unanimously supported, started off with that quiet confidence which one expects of him, disposing of business swiftly and effectively. It is everyone's opinion that he will rank among the K.R.S.'s most notable Presidents.

ANTHOLOGIES of verse and selections from the prose of the greatest writers have always had a big public appeal to readers. In the film world there must be innumerable sequences from silent as well as sound films which kinema patrons and proprietors alike would like to see again for the sheer beauty of their presentation and photography.

ONE thinks of the galley scenes in "Ben Hur," the ice scenes in "Way Down East," the slaying of the dragon in "The Nibelungs," among the films of twenty years ago and more. A length out of "Cimarron" or "The Covered Wagon"—but one could go on selecting. Some of us older ones would sit silent and almost reverential as we gazed upon those scenes again, mellowed by the passage of years.

OF more recent films there are scenes in "Dinner at Eight," "Queen Christina," "Grand Hotel," the mine scene in "Snow White," and many more. But perhaps readers of this column would like to take a hand in this game. What would you do, chum? as Syd Walker used to say.

SID MYERS, British Lion general manager, is on a visit to Ireland, which he would have visited before had not the volume of business consequent upon Sam Smith's absence in America necessitated his presence in London.

HIS first call is Dublin, from which he will move on to the Northern territory. So far "In Which We Serve" has not found its way on to Dublin's screens, but it has played a two weeks' run in Belfast and is returning to play again on the thirty-first.

INCIDENTALLY, a letter from the M. of I. to British Lion states that the film has played in Switzerland, and the Swiss Press has acclaimed it as "the best film of any type made in any country during the war." There is still an eager audience for the picture in London, where the Rialto is doing big business. Among recent distinguished visitors have been the Duke of Gloucester, Lord Harewood and the Princess Royal, and Sir John Simon.

BEFORE leaving America for England, Major David Macdonald, who was responsible for "Desert Victory," a copy of which he personally presented to President Roosevelt, said that the Army Film Unit is now making a film of the Tunisian victory and plans other victory films as the war progresses.

THE application of the Australian price-ceiling regulations to film rentals is causing concern to American distributors. Prices have been pegged to levels obtaining in April, 1942, and the Americans in an official protest are demanding the right to free negotiation and trading.

GEOFFREY BENSTEAD, who has formed the British Australasian Film Corporation, is a native of Australia and came to England in 1913. He went to France with the 1st King Edward's Horse; in 1918 gained his commission on the field and was posted to the 3rd Cavalry Reserve. Lucille Benstead, Mr. Benstead's sister, is at present playing the leading actress's part in the revival of "The Show Boat" at the Stoll Theatre.

RAFAEL SABATINI is always satisfying swashbuckling, and "The Black Swan," 20th Century-Fox's Technicolor sea spectacle, based on his classic romance, attracted many famous and important notabilities including Cabinet Ministers and high Army and stage personalities at its London première on Friday.

AMONG others were the Earl of Kenmare, Lord and Lady Woolton, Group Capt. Lord Willoughby de Broke, General Sir Ian Hamilton, Lieut.-Gen. and Mrs. E. K. Smart, Brigadier and Mrs. Park, Margaret Lockwood, Pat Kirkwood, Larry Rue, important American correspondent, and Francis L. Harley.

A WIDESPREAD publicity campaign backed the opening night of "The Black Swan," this including extensive National Press advertising, posting on 'bus sides, Underground lifts, escalators and station platforms, which will carry on right up to the general release of the film. The first four days grossed the highest figures ever registered at the Odeon with a 20th-Fox picture. On Friday and Saturday it broke every record of the house since the Odeon opened its doors some six years ago.

DENHAM Studio's technical department has just heard with regret of its sixth fatal casualty in t
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Hatchard of t

"HATCH
camera
since the s
VIII" at Den
cently he
Citadel" and

JOINING th
1941, as a
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Dieppe raid an
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upon enemy ta
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the loss of a

NEWS of th
Vint in a
age of 69 year
back beyond
kinema at Barry
years ago, and
South Wales ki
when he ran a
did a mesmerism

IT is recorded that at
Hall, Bristol, he was
middle of a mesmeric turn with
man named Kuener as his subj
When the serious fire broke
Leon was unable to "undo"
patient in time and firemen had
carry out the body for subsequ
renormalisation in less heated
roundings. Vint was the "get
man" to the last, and even wh
resident at Glebelands had serv
performed for him by a "valet."

OUT in North Africa, busy
viding film entertainment
the troops are two ex-kinema
who once regarded each other
"opposition." Lieut. J. K. Staff
Poole managed a circuit
officiated at the Roxy, Edinburg
opposite was the Tivoli wh
Sergt. J. S. Bennett was
operator.

THE luck of war has thro
them together in North Afric
where, according to the *Trip*
Times, they are doing a grand j
of work through E.N.S.A. Fro
Division. "At the moment," s
the report, "they are provid
entertainment for two static
mas and five mobile units in
Tripoli and battle areas."

PART of the exploitation for
patriotic film at a W
Country kinema recently conse
of the posting of two Home Guar
in the foyer, on each side
the box-office. "Two young wome
who were visiting the sisters
asked the reason for their bei
there. A wag told them they we
there to guard the box-office, whi
had been attacked. And the
was believed.

A PIONEER
in church
his 21st annive
minister. He
Tiplady, super
Lambeth Missi
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Kinema, Lamb

The use of
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running the bi
road.

THE STROLLER.

Clos -Ups

— SCREE OMBER —

Veterar lemories.

THINK I ht safely claim that my co gue, Cecil Court, ng with h rtner, Ward R. et, were t rst to introduce l shows to s country. Cecil sed a sens by announcing he had j ced an all-time gth record eaker in "Little lie's Daddy Been and Gone to aven," in elve slides, with mophone ompaniment. It the "G With the Wind" s day, a Cecil, once again d of his me, asked seventy s for the plete set of slides, s that, t ill then, were un- rd of.

ollowing controversy with L.E.A., c Lantern Exhibitors' sociation, Cecil decided to take show on the road himself. Bill- it as "Slush and Sentiment at Sickens," with his usual flair showmanship, he toured his vomitarium and a fully quali- nurse, to assist nauseated ons during the screening.

o the accompaniment of a nograph wax cylinder the opriate slides would then be chronised to the singing. Once, en a careless lanternist—all the ficient ones had gone off to the dian Mutiny—put a slide on up- down, Cecil saved the situation playing the cylinder backwards. onder how many of my readers member the lifting lyrics of Willie's Daddy's Been and Gone Heaven," which might have n the "Jingle, Jangle, Jingle" s day, except that it made more se?

Musical Interlude.

WILLIE'S Daddy's been and gone to Heaven.
Little Willie's lost his love sublime.
A spirit passed out just around eleven
When local pubs were calling closing time.
A passing out at time was surely relevant
For tho' poor Willie's Daddy's dead and gone
He he to off skyward riding a pink elephant
The frag nce of his spirit lingered on.
(Chorus).
Pray Dad in his coffin while Li Willie sobs on
He doesn't e so often so see he gets bras knobs on
Dig the raveyard ground up, with jus ne thought to cheer.
Ordere is last round up and changed om gin to bier

Oh, G ody, Goody!

WITH mmendable zeal. Cole Theatres formed a for ch ren, at which their dren's tinee patrons swore behave emselves, wash be- their rs, give up strong ep good company. executive, not un- the booking side, what constituted ny." stated "All pany that does busi- rental basis."

A.B.C.'s Double First-run Policy

LONDON CRITICS OF NEW DEPARTURE

A PROTEST is to be raised before the General Council regarding a new departure in London bookings of films, which is likely to prejudice second-run and later-run exhibitors.

A.B.C. has booked "Tales of Manhattan" as a solo booking for the week opening May 9. Second run does not follow this as the circuit has booked it for a return week's run beginning June 21. Second runs will follow this booking.

Exhibitors are apprehensive regarding the possible spread of this scheme which operates prejudicially against the generally accepted fourteen days after first-run release from bars.

It is argued that a film might be booked for May and again in September, and the bar on showing might be upheld for a period of months.

JARRATT JOINS A.B.P.C.

Official Statement

THE directors of Associated British Picture Corporation announce that they have secured the services of Commander Arthur Jarratt as booking manager for the circuit. The statement contines:—

"Few men in the motion picture Industry has such wealth of experience of the kinema in all sections as Commander Jarratt, whose new association will be the source of widespread satisfaction throughout the Trade. At the same time, he will bring to the company a further increase in executive man-power, which has been one of the main objects of the directors in additionally strengthening its personnel to deal with current operations and the policy of development after the war.

"In this appointment the directors feel there is excellent reason for mutual congratulation and that they have taken another progressive step in consolidating the company's position at the forefront of the British film Industry."

No information as to the position of W. Moffatt was available when KINE. inquired.

MAJOR R. P. BAKER AS K.R.S. PRESIDENT

Annual Meeting

THE possibility of electing a vice-president of the Kinematograph Renters' Society to relieve the President of the pressure of engagements now inseparable from that office was brought before the annual meeting of the Society by the retiring President, S. W. Smith. The matter is to be further considered at a later meeting.

Mr. Smith said that before vacating the chair he would like to suggest that a vice-president be appointed, not as an officer who would automatically become president the following year, but to assist the president to deal with the business which the Society had to transact.

Sam Eckman, Jun., spoke against the suggestion, but Jos Friedman supported it, saying it might prove an inducement to others to become presidents if they knew that some of the duties would be undertaken by a vice-president.

Mr. Eckman said they could not let Mr. Smith vacate the chair without expressing their gratitude to him for the tremendous amount of work he had put in during the past three years. The Presidency of the K.R.S. had never been an easy task, and it had been harder recently.

F. W. Baker seconded.

Major R. P. Baker, having been duly elected to the Presidency, said that he was finding himself concentrating his attention more and more on the film business. He might not be as well versed in distributing matters as his colleagues, but if the Council would overlook his shortcomings he would do his best to fill the office of President.

Upon the proposal of Mr. Eckman, seconded by F. L. Harley, the re-election of F. W. Baker as treasurer was heartily approved.

Committees were appointed as before, with the exception that S. F. Ditcham was elected to the vacancies caused by the death of C. M. Woolf, to whom S. W. Smith paid a tribute in his opening speech.

The appointment of F. Rowland and Co. as auditors at a fee of fifty guineas was approved.

By sales of his booklet, "Fifty Entertaining Years," G. H. Blackburn, manager of the New Palace, Bristol, has since the beginning of the year contributed £42 to the C.T.B.F. and the Gaumont-British Benevolent Fund.

K.R.S. ANNUAL REPORT

Staff Pilfering on Increase

Increase in kinema staff pilfering is referred to in the report of the President of Kinematograph Renters Society submitted to the annual meeting on Tuesday last. Falsification of box-office returns to renters by exhibitors shows a steady decline during the three years of war, the report states.

One hundred and thirty-three official checks were made by the Society's inspectors, twenty less than in the previous year. Twenty-one cases were investigated, of which twenty were found to be definite defalcation by exhibitors and twenty-four were staff frauds.

The number of exhibitors contributing to the Society's Circuit Inspection Scheme again shows an increase, thus testifying to its worth in the eyes of many exhibitors.

Joint Investigation

Five meetings of the Joint Investigation Committee were held and there were also five meetings of the Renter's Appeal Committee, which considered a number of appeals for the removal of the Society's restriction on trading. The department has also been of considerable benefit to members from the point of view of dissemination of statistical information which had not been previously tabulated.

Interviews with Departments

In the opening paragraphs of the Report it is chronicled that much of the members' time has been devoted to considering the requirements of Government Departments and Services and helping to find solutions to the many perplexities appertaining to the supply of films, not the least of which has been and still is the question of maintaining efficient distribution with ever-dwindling staffs.

Whilst one has to be thankful to the powers that be for enabling the Industry to carry on up to the present, one cannot help but query whether it has been sufficiently realised that it is not merely the production of films that must be maintained, but distribution also, for

Continued on page 32

NATIONAL LICENCE DEMANDED

THE case for a National Kinema Licence was put forward by H. Simpson, President of the C.E.A., at the luncheon which followed the meeting of the Bristol Branch, and which was attended by the Lord Mayor.

Mr. Simpson said there were in Britain some 700 licensing boards, all of which have their own ideas of what the public should have in the way of film entertainment. Unfortunately, these ideals are not based on experience; in fact, some magistrates have even said they do not attend kinemas at all. We in the rank-and-file have a direct access to the 615 Members of the House of Commons, and steps should be taken to ensure at the next General Election some promise of reform should be exacted from the candidates.

We have no need to convert the Government Departments — that is already done. I urge that whenever there is a vacancy in the local munici-

Continued on page 15

RKO-Radio Studio Chief

C. Hailes Koerner has been given a new seven-year contract as general maanger of RKO-Radio's Hollywood Studios. He was formerly in charge of RKO theatres.

Anna Neagle and Claude Rains. Two of the great star roster in RKO-Radio's FOREVER AND A DAY

London Trade Show Diary

OFFERINGS TO BE SCREENED BETWEEN THURS., MAY 6 AND WED., MAY 12

Thursday

Forever and a Day *(RKO-Radio)*

Leicester Square Theatre. 10.30 a.m.

Cast: Brian Aherne, Robert Cummings, Charles Laughton, Ida Lupino, Herbert Marshall, Ray Milland, Anna Neagle, Merle Oberon, Ruth Warwick, Dame May Whitty, Victor McLaglen, Jessie Matthews, Ian Hunter, C. Aubrey Smith, Edward Everett Horton, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Buster Keaton, Wendy Barrie, Kent Smith, Roland Young and Gladys Cooper. **Directors:** Rene Clair, Edmund Goulding, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Frank Lloyd, Victor Saville, Robert Stevenson, Herbert Wilcox.

The greatest cast of stars ever gathered together in one picture are featured in "Forever and a Day," the dramatic, emotional, and human story of a family and its succeeding generations who peopled a house from 1804 to the present day.

C. Aubrey Smith, a fiery old retired Admiral, builds a house on the outskirts of London at a time when Napoleon threatened Britain with his invasion. His son, Ray Milland, marries a runaway girl, Anna Neagle, despite the objections of her despotic guardian, Claude Rains, but after the union is blessed by the birth of a son, Milland is killed fighting with Nelson at Trafalgar.

The family fall on evil times, and Rains gains revenge by buying the house and ejecting Miss Neagle and her son. Rains meets with a terrible death, but Smith's grand-daughter, Jessie Matthews, returns from India to marry the present occupier, Ian Hunter, and assists him to amass a great fortune.

The family continue to prosper and is honoured when Queen Victoria bestows a knighthood on its new head, Edward Everett Horton.

From this point the picture gains in dramatic momentum. How the family lose their old home when it is turned into an hotel, the marriage of a receptionist to a member of the Admiral's family, and the unique manner in which the house once again reverts to its rightful ownership are among the thrilling highlights of the concluding sequences.

Friday

They Got Me Covered *(RKO-Radio)*

Cambridge Theatre. 10.30 a.m.

Cast: Bob Hope, Dorothy Lamour, Lenore Aubert, Otto Preminger, Edward Ciannelli, Marion Martin, Donald Meek and Phyllis Ruth. **Director:** David Butler.

A newspaperman's frantic attempts to obtain a story of German espionage in America and redeem his position in the eyes of his chief provides the hilarious story basis of Samuel Goldwyn's great new comedy triumph.

Described as the funniest thrill-comedy of the year, the picture's action is mostly centred in Washington with Bob Hope as the newspaper correspondent and Dorothy Lamour as his fiancée and manager of a news syndicating office there.

Hope learns that for a large sum of money he can buy a complete story of the Axis spy system in the United States. He induces Miss Lamour to loan him the syndicate's money, but before he can get hold of the story itself the Axis agents interfere and kidnap everyone concerned, including Hope himself.

Tuesday

Forbidden Trails *(Pathe)*

G.-B. Theatre. 10.30 a.m.

Cast: Buck Jones, Tim McCoy and Raymond Hatton with Tristram Coffin, Dave O'Brien and Christine McIntyre. **Director:** Robert N. Bradbury.

Bringing three such intriguing characters as Jones, McCoy and Hatton together in a campaign to clean up a town notorious for harbouring lawbreakers, the story details their battle against a ruthless overlord of Western crime. They also take on the assignment of running down a gang of mine ore thieves. Buck Jones appears as a retired marshal who is called on to break up a nest of outlaws. His friends pose as a horse-driver and a faro dealer and collaborate in the campaign to out wit the thieves.

There is a roaring climax as the trio outsmart the crooks, and the picture ends in a rapid-paced scene that is tops for action.

There Goes the Bride *(Equity)*

G.-B. Private Theatre. 2.30 p.m.

Cast: Jessie Matthews, Carol Goodner, Roland Culver, Jerry Verno, Owen Nares. **Director:** Albert de Courville.

Revival of popular and gorgeous musical with brilliant cast of stars who put over a notable performance in this comedy detective drama.

Bright marital tangle enhanced with music, dancing, romance and thrills.

Wednesday

Keep 'Em Slugging *(G.F.D.)*

G.F.D. Private Theatre. 10.30 a.m.

Cast: Huntz Hall, Bobby Jordan, Gabriel Dell, Norman Abbott, Evelyn Ankers, Elyse Knox, Frank Albertson, Don Porter, Shemp Howard, Samuel S. Hinds, Mary Gordon, Milburn Stone, Joan Marsh. **Director:** Christy Cabanne.

Tommy and his pals the Dead End Kids take jobs in a department store as part of their war effort, where Frank, store executive, is attracted romantically by Sheila. Frank is secretly allied with a gang of lorry thieves. When a load of silk is to be stolen, he tries to involve Tommy in the theft, but Tommy rejects the propositon.

Frank frames Tommy with the theft of some jewellery. Tommy is jailed and his pals are discharged, but Tommy is befriended by Jerry, who also has a deep interest in Sheila. Later, at liberty again, Tommy follows Frank to a warehouse where the gang is plotting to steal one of the company's trucks.

Tommy rounds up his pals. They return in time to the warehouse to see the truck being hid. By means of a fire hose they keep the thieves at bay and have them caught red-handed when the police arrive in answer to their S O S.

No Lady *(Equity)*

G.-B. Private Theatre. 11 a.m.

Cast: Lupino Lane, Lola Hunt, Sari Maritza, Cyril McLaglen, Renee Clama, Herman Darewski and Band. **Director:** L'Estrange Fawcett.

Lively entertainment, which includes story of henpecked husband with numerous family on holiday at Blackpool, where he is inadvertently placed in charge of a racing 'plane.

Lupino Lane at the peak of his funnyisms and top-notch amusement.

Assignment in Brittany *(M-G-M)*

Own Theatre. 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

Cast: Pierre Aumont, Susan Peters, Signe Hasso, Richard Whorf, Margaret Wycherly, Reginald Owen, Darryl Hick… John Emer…

Based on th… Helen Machu… Brittany" tells… officer who di… among a batch… Resorting to pl… himself the co… poilu. His ass… Nazi submarine…

It is a thrill-h… courage in the … fare. Its high… around the coura… girl in Nazi-o… Fighting-French … a secret agent … their stolen grou…

The Mo… *(20…*

Century Theatre.

Cast: Sir Cedri… Travers, Le… Bowdon, Mar… van Eyck, … Henry Rowl…

Director: Irv…

Picturesque … courageous people … Nazis form the d… this story of the … hope and spiritu… force. Based … sensational and … film tells the story … resistance of an in…ded people … on a high note of hope, proving … free men can be killed but the… never broken.

The Silent Witness *(Pathe)*

G.-B. Theatre. 2.30 p…

Cast: Otto Kruger and Tina Th… with Rick Vallin and Russell H…

Director: Joseph H. Lewis.

The story of a wilful young daugh… of a well-known criminal attorney … the tragedy which her escapades br… to both their lives. Tina Thayer falls … love with Rick Vallin, who, unknown … her, is her father's right-hand man … in his secret underworld activi… Dramatic developments come quickly … when Kruger learns that Vallin has … a spell over his daughter. He orders … him to leave town within 24 hours. … Vallin decides to elope with the daughter … of his erstwhile boss, and thus satisfy … his revenge and secure the girl at the … same time. Tina Thayer does not … realise who and what Vallin is until it … is too late. Then comes the killing of … the double-crosser at the orders of the … underworld chief. Circumstantial evi… dence puts Tina Thayer on trial for … murder. And her own father, head of … the underworld gang, is placed in the … position of defending his daughter from … the charge of murdering the man who … was his underworld confederate.

From Monogram special RHYTHM PARADE (Pathe… eaturing Gale … Storm, Robert Lowery, Margaret Dimont and the … Brothers

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EDINBU GH C.E.A. DIS SSION

A GOOD tion w of dissatisfaction expressed at the meeting the Edinburgh Section of Scottish C.E.A. at the pro uls for concurrent showing newsreels. Particular cri ism was directed to the te ns of a supplementary ntract which had been sen for exhibitors to sign.

W. H. ALBIN said if you had a ntract for 2 months with a film mpany you signed this new conct for the duration, and at the d you might have nine months the old contract to go. He ought it was a one-sided agreeent, and that there ought to be a ncellation clause similar to that the original contract.

Mr. BENNELL said this was the ly concession acceptable to the ard of Trade, and if they did not cept it they were not going to get ms. The only alternative to ese proposals was fewer copies of film, and that meant films uld be in worse condition, so at from the exhibitor's point of ew these were very much the best rms that could be got.

Mr. DICKSON said the committee that otiated this thought it far better to a concession on the newsreels than give a bigger concession on the ordiy feature films, and they had taken line of least resistance in so far as newsreels used about 40 per cent. der the present arrangement of the al celluloid used. The newsreels did get into such bad condition, because y were not run so much.

. Fuller's Advice Wanted

eplying to a member who raised the stion of increased charges, Mr. kson said he did not recollect in the eral Purposes Committee discussions t there was a clause in the contract ing that the renter had power to ease prices of the newsreels even if material went up in price. He ught the renters must have put that themselves. The Government were ratening, an alternative to these posals, curtailment of running time. ply shortening the programme did affect any saving at all.

Mr. M'LAUGHLIN suggested there uld be a clause in the contract that they found it impossible to carry ugh the crossover they could cancel agreement.

Mr. ALBIN pointed out that the exitors were to bear the expense of the sover, while the renter was having expenses t by a third under these condition

Mr. BENNELL said as he understood the tion, it was that they had to agree the supplementary contract until this er was suspended, and then they the option of cancelling it in the od of time stipulated in the original tract.

was agreed that members should sign this new contract until Mr. er had advised them whether there any proviso for cancelling it if it found satisfactory. Mr. Fuller also to be asked whether the itors would guaranteed that they uld get newsreels of the same age as they had contracted for.

Arthur Askey and Evelyn Dall in MISS LONDON LTD. (G.F.D.) reviewed in this issue

TRADE UNIONS DEMAND S.O.

Blackburn Action

Blackburn Trades and Labour Council, representing several thousand trade unionists, on April 27, called for the introduction of Sunday kinemas by 28 votes to 15. The transport workers objected on the ground that it would add to their already onerous duties consequent upon late travel.

Isaac Caswell, the former League referee, who has lived many years in South America, said in that part of the world they fostered Sunday recreation and kinemas, and yet church attendance was more strictly observed than in this country.

Ald. Porter said in the first year of Manchester's Sunday kinemas, an increase in juvenile crime was attributed by the then Chief Constable to this innovation. He declared that only one of the numerous kinema managers in Blackburn wanted Sunday opening. The rest were against it and they urged it would add to their already great staffing difficulties. Kinema workers pointed out that they were already on duty from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and the managers were frequently having to make fresh appointments.

Other members replied that railways and road transport observed a seven-day week, but the work was so arranged that no one was on duty more than six days. Kinemas ought to be able to do the same.

Blackburn Watch Committee, who had twice turned down requests for Sunday kinemas, are now to be asked to reconsider their decision.

PLYMOUTH RAISES £12,000

P. OF W. EFFORT

Collections for prisoners of war in the Plymouth kinemas last week amounted to £2,000.

Service men have been among those most readily to respond, according to Messrs. H. E. Gilley, of the Odeon, T. B. Purdie, of the Royal, W. J. Halls-Brooks, of the Gaumont, H. B. Mather, of the Ford Palladium, and Frank Wheeler, St. Budeaux, all favourite meeting places of Service men.

Through her entertainment halls and flag days, Plymouth recently raised about £10,000 in addition to the £2,000 raised last week.

In the course of receiving the amounts on behalf of the British Red Cross and Order of St. John, Mrs. F. H. Vellacott, county vice-president of St. John, remarked that the kinemas had done wonderful work for war charities. She had never met with a refusal for a collection to be taken.

Continued foot of next column

EDINBURGH AUTONOMY AGAIN DISCUSSED

New Machinery Suggested for Harmonious Operation

EDINBURGH autonomy was discussed again at last week's meeting of the Edinburgh Section, when Ritson Bennell suggested there should be new machinery to enable the sections and the Scottish Branch to work together more harmoniously. A. S. Albin presided.

W. H. ALBIN, reporting on the last meeting of the Scottish Executive, said it was clearly understood and agreed that the Edinburgh Section had local autonomy.

R. M'LAUGHLIN thought that was not quite correct. His understanding was that Glasgow was quite prepared to allow Edinburgh to have local autonomy on minor matters, provided Glasgow had not previously made up its mind what Edinburgh was to do.

W. M. CAMERON said he more or less forced it down the throats of Glasgow that Edinburgh ought to have local autonomy, and he thought they gave in.

LOUIS DICKSON agreed with Mr. Cameron.

Mr. M'LAUGHLIN suggested they should put it in their minutes that Edinburgh has local autonomy, and send a letter to Glasgow thanking them for having agreed to this. Then they would know where they were.

Mr. ALBIN repeated that there was very little dissent when the matter was brought up.

Mr. M'LAUGHLIN said what was discussed at Glasgow was whether a committee should be formed to decide whether Edinburgh had local autonomy.

RITSON BENNELL, reminding them that they should be speaking of the Scottish Branch and not of Glasgow, thought they should let the matter drop. What members felt was that the Scottish Branch as a whole should be in a position to discuss matters relating to the whole of Scotland. At present he did not think they had the machinery for that. He thought the sections should discuss matters and then come to the Scottish Branch and give their views, and at next meeting some machinery should be devised to enable the Scottish Branch as a whole and the sections to work together more harmoniously.

Hint to Scots

Mr. DICKSON, reporting on the last meeting of the Legal and Parliamentary Committee, said the C.E.A. had served a writ on a local authority in England which was trying to impose conditions as to the admission of children at Sunday shows, but the local authority asked the C.E.A. to withdraw their writ. So it was pretty certain, said Mr. Dickson, that authorities had no power to impose these conditions in their licences, and exhibitors should keep that in mind.

"Desert Victory" Bookings

The General Purposes Committee had considered a resolution from Scotland regarding the booking of "Desert Victory." He pointed out to them that exhibitors felt the independent halls should have had an equal chance with the circuits of getting first-run rights of this picture. Several opinions were put forward, and one circuit representative said the M. of I. wanted a big distribution, and the easiest way was to fix with the circuits. But he (Mr. Dickson) pointed out that the picture was not distributed by the M. of I. but by a firm of film distributors which had branches all over the country, and it seemed easy for them to fix up some independent halls in the first run with the circuit halls. They seemed to see the sense of the argument, and it was agreed that the whole matter be discussed with the M. of I. So there would be a further report next month.

All the M. of I. long films would not be the same draw as "Desert Victory," and they might come along with another that the independents did not want.

C.M.A. Dissenters?

Reporting on the Cinema Managers' Charter, Mr. DICKSON said the opinion of the General Purposes Committee was that they could not recognise a trade union of kinema managers, and he did not expect many of their managers would wish to join this union.

The New Prices

They all knew of the work of the E.T. Committee, Mr. Dickson continued, and it was the opinion of the General Council that that committee had done a wonderful job, and had got the uttermost advantage for the exhibitors from the Chancellor that they could possibly have got. There had been a stiff fight for the 1s. 3d. price, but the Chancellor would not agree to it at all.

Mr. M'LAUGHLIN suggested they should agree wherever possible to the prices, but that where prices were doubtful it was better that they should have local agreements.

The CHAIRMAN: We had area conveners before.

When the meeting was discussing half-prices A. C. PINDER reminded them that they had agreed to call them reduced prices and not half-prices.

R. SCOTT said his reduced prices would have to be the prices on his machine, and the CHAIRMAN added that he would require a new machine or else make his reduced price 9d. all over.

Some area conveners were appointed, including Walter M'Guire (Musselburgh), R. M'Laughlin (Central), Miss Di Rollo (Portobello) and W. H. Albin (Leith), but it was afterwards agreed to adjust conveners as far as possible with the previous list.

E.T.U. Approach

A letter was read from the E.T.U. secretary stating that his projectionist members were considerably perturbed about the operation in this area of the Industrial Court award of January, 1941, and regarding the question of female dilution. A meeting at an early date to consider this question was urged.

It was agreed to reply that if they had any hardship cases to let them know and they would make inquiries, and to tell them that they would have to see the Ministry of Labour about female dilution.

North Lincs Accepts New Price Schedule

PLEA FOR UNANIMITY IN APPLICATION

WHILE the North Lincolnshire Branch of the C.E.A. accepted the official schedule of new admission prices, members pointed out that one or two kinemas had not even implemented the local agreement after the last tax increase, and, moreover, had failed to observe certain agreed conditions accepted when permission was given for the reopening of Grimsby kinemas.

During the discussion, after which it was decided to accept the new admission prices agreed by the General Council and the circuits, it was mentioned that one or two kinemas in Grimsby had not adhered to the agreement reached locally after the imposition of the last tax increase to the effect that the lowest admission price in any kinema should be sixpence, and children were being admitted for fourpence.

Broken Pledges

"This is all wrong and contrary to the principle adopted by our association," said CHARLES CLOW (hon. sec.), who further recalled that when Grimsby kinemas were reopened after being closed at the outbreak of hostilities he appeared before the Watch Committee as the kinema representative, and it was then stipulated that no children under the age of three were to be admitted to kinemas and it was agreed to discontinue children's performances, which had been done with the exception of two kinemas.

In one of these houses, he said, children in arms were being allowed in, and he was given to understand that the police had been keeping observation.

It was decided to make efforts to secure further information about the matter.

Other matters which are to be further investigated were allegations of breaches of the agreement with the N.A.T.K.E. regarding Sunday payment at Gainsborough and Grimsby and the payment of probationer operators in excess of the agreement with the same body.

C.M.A. Charter

The kinema managers' charter was responsible for a lengthy discussion.

T. D. BELL, who presided, said that the manager was an important executive, but for some unknown reason he had not always been fairly treated in the matter of wages and bonus. His status needed raising, and in his opinion it would be fairer if the manager's war bonus was added to his salary.

Mr. CLOW and Mr. KASONI pointed out that the circuits had recently given their managers a bonus.

The general opinion appeared to be that managers should be represented by a properly constituted body and that it would be to the advantage of all concerned if this body was independent of the N.A.T.K.E.

Sea Cadets Refused

An application was received from Capt. F. E. Townend for a collection to be made in Grimsby and Cleethorpes kinemas for the Grimsby Sea Cadet Corps funds.

Mr. CLOW said that although he was an officer of the Corps he would leave the matter to the members after pointing out that the Grimsby and Cleethorpes Corps was the largest single unit in England and was urgently in need of funds.

He had informed Capt. Townend that in view of their previous decisions regarding collections, the Trade would not be able to help, but the letter before the meeting had been sent at the instigation of the Mayor and the Watch Committee.

When the application was refused, members pointed out that they had every sympathy and appreciation of the work of the Corps, but if they were granted a collection the A.T.C. and the Army Cadets might reasonably also expect to have one.

Camp Pre-release

Mr. WEBB (Woodhall Spa) reported that he had "Desert Victory" scheduled for his house and that it had already been screened at two camps not far from him. As he was largely dependent on troops the booking would not now be of much advantage to him.

It was decided to report the matter to W. R. Fuller, General Secretary.

Branch Congratulations

Among social events reported were the wedding of J. Edmundson (Regal, Grimsby), to whom it was decided to present five guineas from the Managers' Association Fund; the election for a second year of Coun. W. H. Webster as chairman of the Brigg U.D.C., to whom congratulations were extended; and the wedding of Miss Thompson, daughter of A. Thompson, who received the Branch's congratulations.

—and Condolences

Mr. BELL referred to the death of Ald. J. H. Tate, J.P., chairman of the Grimsby Watch Committee, who was described as a great friend of the Trade in Grimsby. The secretary was instructed to send a letter of sympathy to Mrs. Tate.

Supporting the chairman were Messrs. V. Burton, R. B. Jones, R. Shacklock, W. Auty, J. B. O'Keefe, R. J. Webb, J. Laws, Coun. Webster and Mrs. Bass.

Ian Hunter and Jessie Matthews provide the love interest in the third episode of FOREVER AND A DAY, unique all-star feature which RKO-Radio is releasing without profit, in aid of British and U.S. war charities

BIG RECEPTION PLANNED

For "Johnny Doughboy"

By BRITISH LION

"Johnny Doughboy," Republic's new comedy, is to receive a welcome at British Lion on a scale accorded only to the company's most outstanding productions. The three cardinal assets which it is reported to possess in sufficient force to warrant these grand-style arrangements are unparalleled entertainment value; star appeal; and irresistible topicality.

"Johnny Doughboy" is a comedy with music. The comedy has been acknowledged, in American critical circles, to strike a top "C" in modern humour; the music has been found entrancing by millions of U.S. patrons; the direction, it is said, marks John J. Auer as a man with a big future.

BIGGEST WEST END DEAL

"Forever and a Day" for Leicester Square

The great all-star film, "Forever and a Day," sponsored by RKO-Radio, is to open for a West End pre-release run at the Leicester Square Theatre following negotiations between Ernest Simon of RKO-Radio and Frank Ditcham of General Film Distributors, who state that the deal is one of the biggest ever concluded for the West End exhibition of a motion picture.

It is already known that major charities in every country in which it is shown will receive the distribution profits of "Forever and a Day," and the charities likely to benefit in Great Britain is providing a topic of the greatest interest in motion picture circles in this country.

"Forever and a Day" features Hollywood's greatest stars in a story written by 21 world-famous authors and brought to the screen by seven of the screen's foremost producers and directors. The story is centred around the various generations of a family from Nelson to the present day. Comedy, drama, thrills and great emotion are combined in the picture, which has been described as one of the finest tributes to this country ever seen on the screen.

The cast of "Forever and a Day" includes Brian Aherne, Robert Cummings, Charles Laughton, Ida Lupino, Herbert Marshall, Ray Milland, Anna Neagle, Merle Oberon, Ruth Warrick, Dame May Whitty and Ian Hunter, and 70 other Hollywood favourites, while Rene Clair, Edmund Goulding, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Frank Lloyd, Victor Saville, Robert Stevenson and Herbert Wilcox are credited with production and direction.

Every effort will be made to give British exhibitors the earliest possible opportunity of viewing "Forever and a Day," and an announcement can be expected in the near future.

C.M.A. Basic Salaries

NORTHERN BRANCH RECOMMENDATIONS

A meeting of the Northe Branch of the C.M.A. was held Newcastle on Sunday, April and was attended by a represent tive gathering.

The main subject of review w the clause in the Manage Charter calling for a minimu wage of £10 per week. After d cussion it was agreed that th clause should be amended, a that the manager's salary shou be governed by the grade of t hall. The following schedule salaries was agreed to unan mously.

Managers NOT booking the programmes: AA £15 per wee A, £12 10s. per week; B, £10 p week; C, £7 10s. per week. Oth Grades £6.

Managers booking their own p grammes: AA, £21 per week; £17 10s. per week; B, £13 p week; C, £9 per week. Oth Grades £7. These salaries a basic and do not include W Bonus, etc.

Allied Films in Finland

A correspondent in Stockholm sta that notwithstanding the Finnish allia with Germany, kin as in that coun have never ceased showing British American films.

Study of the kinema advertisemen reveals the fact t of fifty kinem advertising last onth, twenty-se were showing Engl or American fil and only nine German. Admitted most of them were of the ordinary co mercial variety, p duced before pro ganda had becom e basic element plots and backgro d. But even so is significant that news film show the landing of Am can troops in No Africa was consid d suitable fare Finnish audiences.

SAVE Y UR WAS E PAPER

"THIS LATEST BUTCHER'S EMPIRE PRODUCTION REVEALS A SURE KNOWLEDGE OF POPULAR BOX-OFFICE REQUIREMENTS." —*The Cinema.*

"First-rate British booking. Obvious box-office stuff—Sincere, moving and human story."

The Kinematograph Weekly.

"Attractive offering for most audiences—Another of those popular stories adroitly fitted to a popular song title—the playing and singing is some of the best ever heard in a British film."

The Daily Film Renter.

"Romantic story laced with good music."

Faulkner's Review.

Butcher's Film Service Ltd

Phone: GERRARD 7282. F. W. BAKER · Managing Director. 175, WARDOUR ST., LONDON, W.1. Wires: BUTCHILMS RATH LONDON

C—9-12

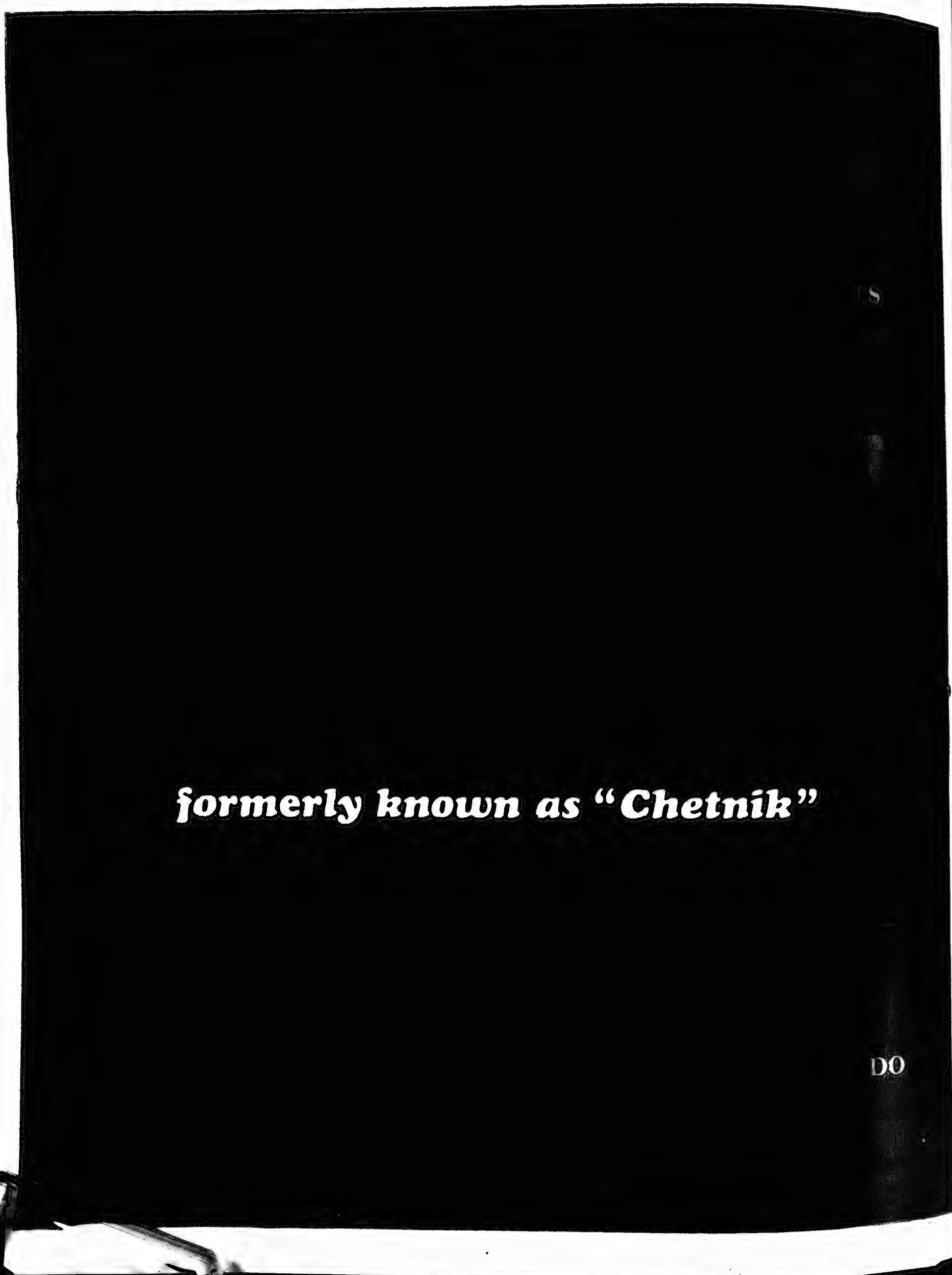
Paramount PROUDLY PRESENTS
ALAN LADD
WITH
HELEN WALKER
MABEL PAIGE • SHELDON LEONARD
MARIE McDONALD
SCREEN PLAY BY DARRELL WARE AND KARL TUNBERG
Directed by FRANK TUTTLE • A PARAMOUNT PICTURE
TOO
FOR A GIR
TO

— THE THRILL SENSATION OF 1942

HE KILLER' WHO WAS DEATH ON RATS IN

and

IN HIS FIRST STARRING ROLE as
VACE THEY CALL...


formerly known as "Chetnik"

NEW[S] REEL CHAN[GE] EOVERS

Sheffiel[d] Discusses P[o]licy

MEMBERS[hip] of the Sheffield branch, [w]hile approving the recomm[en]dation of the General Co[un]cil for a nightly change-over [o]f newsreels to save film st[o]ck, declared that some of t[he] arrangements made for c[er]tain houses were inco[n]venient.

Coun. HAROL[D] S. GENT, who introduced the ma[t]ter, hoped that all members woul[d] work the scheme to the best of th[eir] ability. He said it was up to th[em] to make the best of the schem[e] though it might mean some in[con]venience.

He was afraid that if they did not work the Sch[e]me the Board of Trade would do it for them. It might even mean, he said, the escoping of some theatres, and where five theatres now existed in a district there might be three or only two. If that were to happen they would have something to cry about.

A. R. FAVELL thought the crossing arrangements could be more conveniently done if they had a booking scheme amongst themselves. There were cases where the taking of films from one theatre to another would mean a double tram journey.

The Chairman, E. C. CLAYTON, was appointed to represent the Association on the Sheffield Information Committee.

Damage to Films

During a discussion on damage to films and the need for projectionists to take greater care in rewinding and packing, W. C. HARTE (vice-chairman) said the transport people were responsible for much of the damage. Transport drivers, he said, did not place a film in a theatre, they usually threw it in. Recently they threw a box into a theatre with which he was associated and damaged the pay box.

"Wings for Victory" Week

In connection with the Sheffield "Wings for Victory" Week, Sheffield exhibitors agreed to decorate their theatres.

The Branch intends to invest surplus funds in Government securities.

At a meeting of the General Purposes Committee of Cornwall County Council it was stated that the condition prohibiting the attendance of children at kinemas at Sunday perfor[m]ances at Penzance and Falmouth had been withdrawn, as the County Council had refused to adopt the committee's recommendation to defend any legal proceedings that might be instituted.

Losses caused by kinemas in the town through the destruction or theft of electric bulbs were commented on by the chairman at Gateshead Police Court when two boys, both working, were fined 10s. each and ordered to pay damages and cost for the theft of an electric bulb from the Empress Cinema High Street.

The Birmingham branch of G.-B. Equipt., Ltd., will shortly return to the Film Trade quarters of this city. The premises have been secured at 57, John Bright Street, almost opposite the Futurist Theatre.

Errol Flynn and Ann Sheridan in EDGE OF DARKNESS, forthcoming Warner picture

EXHIBITORS TO MEET JUSTICES

New Conditions at Southport

When the Southport Licensing Bench renewed the kinema licences (seven days) last Thursday it was made known to the public that new conditions have been imposed regarding lighting and "other requirements"

Chairman W. Aveling said it had been found that some kinemas did not comply with the requirements of the law. Others, however, were excellent.

He stated that there would be a condition attached to the licences that whatever work might be required by the Licensing Committee they must be carried out within a period of three months, when another special report would be presented by the Chief Constable. It must be thoroughly understood that, although licences were granted, the magistrates had power to withdraw a licence at any time during the year.

Kersley Seddon, representing the kinema proprietors, suggested a meeting of the licensees with the magistrates to discuss certain difficulties, and this was agreed to. The licensees had decided to accept the general conditions laid down by the magistrates.

Midland Red Cross Effort

Next week Birmingham and Midland kinemas will make their official six days' collection in aid of the Red Cross and St. John Prisoners of War Fund. Record-breaking Leslie Holderness, of the Odeon Theatre, Birmingham, has set his target at £3,000, and to augment the generosity of his patrons is contributing his usual enterprise. With the permission of the Aston Villa Football Club, he arranged a collection at the turnstiles on the occasion of Blackpool's visit on April 24, when members of the Odeon staff and other well-wishers succeeded in harvesting £425 for "Leslie's" initial effort.

A local branch of the Odeon National Kinema Clubs has been opened at the Odeon, Taunton. Flight-Lieut. Duffy, commandant of the A.T.C., opened the club.

N.A.T.K.E. AGREEMENT TO BE EXTENDED

To Take in North Wales

NORTH WALES exhibitors, who constitute a Section of the N.W. Branch, met at Colwyn Bay on Thursday last and considered the N.A.T.K.E. request for a discussion on a basic agreement defining wages and working conditions in the area. The occasion was the eighth annual general meeting of the Section. E. H. Whittell and R. P. Rutherford, chairman and vice-chairman of the North-Western Branch, attended.

In addition to desiring negotiations on wages, Mr. O'Brien, N.A.T.K.E. Secretary, asked that the latest bonus award should be paid to employees. It was pointed out during discussion that whilst North Wales was excluded from the North-Western agreement with N.A.T.K.E., the general level of wages paid compared favourably with those of other districts.

Sub-committee appointed to meet Mr. O'Brien comprises E. H. James (chairman), W. Eastaway Smith, Llewellyn Edwards, Mrs. Davies (Caernarvon) and F. H. Kenyon (hon. secretary). It is expected the meeting will take place at Colwyn Bay at an early date.

Newsreel Prices

That an allowance should be made from the price of newsreels when one copy was shared by two halls was claimed by some members. Everyone was asked to co-operate in the major aim of conservation in order to avoid any curtailment of playing time. There was need for an accommodating attitude even if this meant some rearrangement of programmes.

Wanton Damage

L. EDWARDS called attention to the amount of wanton destruction in kinemas by mischievously or evilly disposed persons. Whenever possible, the offenders ought to be brought to the courts. He thought that in addition to any punishment imposed by the magistrates, exhibitors should refuse admission for a stated period.

Pass on the Tax

On the question of Entertainment Tax, it was decided to circularise all members asking them to revise their admission prices to include the increase.

The Officers

E. H. James (Luxor, Llanwrst) was re-elected chairman; Reg Halstead (vice-chairman), and F. H. Kenyon (hon. secretary).

Workers Protest at S.O. Refusal

Protest against the Blackburn Watch Committee's decision not to permit the Sunday opening of kinemas is made by the local Trades and Labour Council in a resolution of protest carried by 28 votes to 15.

Ald. E. Porter declared that with one exception none of the kinema managers wanted to open on Sundays. Sunday opening would aggravate staffing troubles.

One speaker also made reference to an increase in juvenile crime in Manchester which the former Chief Constable attributed to Sunday kinemas.

[This is a misstatement. When the Chief Constable reported on juvenile delinquency, the KINE. at the time quoted his figures, which clearly did not indicate any relation between Sunday opening and juvenile aberrations. We also called attention to a misleading headline in one of the Manchester evening newspapers which possibly might have influenced this speaker to make his rash statement.—ED.]

BIRMINGHAM PRICES DECISION

The main business done at the April meeting of the Birmingham and Midlands Branch of the C.E.A., as briefly announced in last week's issue, was the revision of admission prices following the Budget increase in the Entertainment Tax.

Morrison Tribute

The Branch unanimously decided to subscribe £25 to the F. W. Morrison Testimonial Fund, and also acceded to a request by the Yugoslav Relief Society for slides publicising the Birmingham Area Flag Day on June 10 to be exhibited in local kinemas.

H. B. LANE, Chairman of the Sunday Films Committee, reported that at its monthly meeting that committee considered three of the films reviewed unsuitable for inclusion in Sunday programmes.

Having decided to follow the example of the circuits, the branch also agreed that various groups of exhibitors with houses in the same locality should get together to mutually agree upon admission prices for that particular district.

Members were assured that should any difficulty be experienced in any area in arriving at agreement the committee would willingly come to their assistance.

Deferment Procedure

Arising out of the report of the last meeting of the General Council presented by C. H. RUSS (chairman) and B. T. DAVIS, A. G. MAY referred to the question of applications for deferment of men and women.

Some confusion had arisen through forms of application for deferment of individual employees being submitted by different people owing to the fact that the information given by one did not agree with that given by the other. It was emphasised that it was advisable that all applications for deferment should be handled by one individual in connection with each kinema.

900 A.T.S. SEE "GENTLE SEX"

At the Odeon, Leicester Square

On Thursday night of last week the Odeon Theatre, Leicester Square, closed its circle to the public and entertained 900 A.T.S. personnel. They saw the film "The Gentle Sex"—the Two Cities-Concanen production—a story of the A.T.S., which has been so enthusiastically received. The girls arrived at Leicester Square, headed by their own band, and after the film had been shown Derrick de Marney, the producer, spoke to the audience from the stage and said how much the film owed to the splendid work and co-operation of the A.T.S.

D

Laurence Olivier in a scene from the Two-Cities film DEMI-PARADISE, which Anthony Asquith is directing at Denham for G.F.D. release

OVER 41's HARD TO HOLD

Call-up Effect on Safety Conditions

EXPLANATION was given by J. J. MacCracken, chairman of the S. and E. Lancs Branch of the Employment of Women (Control of Engagement) Order. This applied to full-time and part-time women between the ages of 18 and 41, but those having the custody of children were "non-directable." "Directable" women could be employed only through an Employment Exchange.

Coun. J. C. WHITAKER said this Order would undoubtedly cause hardship for exhibitors. His experience indicated that women over 41 were hard to hold. Those responsible for looking after children or with domestic duties could not keep their minds on their jobs during the late evenings. How could such women be depended upon, yet exhibitors would have to employ them?

J. MATHER considered the Trade would have to bear its share of sacrifice, so far as staffing problems were concerned.

Safety Conditions

W. H. ELLWOOD (Stockport) called attention to the observations made by W. A. Hockman at the meeting of the Manchester and Salford branch. His suggestion was that owing to the gravity of the situation the facts should be brought to the notice of Watch Committees and perhaps chief constables, in view of the obligations on exhibitors to comply with regulations for the safety of the public.

The General Council did a lot of things without consulting the branches; here was an occasion when the branches could tell it what to do. The branch could at least make inquiries.

"I do not think we have the shadow of a chance in getting the Watch Committees or the chief constables to take any action against an Order issued by the Government," promptly replied the CHAIRMAN. Efforts had been made to secure concessions without success. They were told it would be futile for exhibitors to apply to the Employment Exchange for female staff in the 18-41 age group. Members would have to make the best arrangements they could.

J. MATHER pointed out there were 2,000 small kinemas, and if the Association tried to force the issue they might be confronted with a proposition involving a thinning out in their numbers.

EXHIBITORS TO MEET WATCH COMMITTEE

Birkenhead Discussions

Birkenhead Watch Committee has taken the initiative in calling a conference of interested parties to discuss what steps might be taken to prevent children under the age of 14 years from attending kinema performances during school hours, when the schools are open.

In addition to members of the Watch Committee, who have invited the attendance of representatives of the local theatre proprietors, the conference will be attended by members of the Education Committee and representatives of the teachers.

Truants in Queues

When Sheffield parents were summoned for not sending their children regularly to school, it was stated that information was received by the education authorities that the children were going to kinemas. Picture house queues were watched and children who should have been at school were seen in the queues.

Five parents were each fined £1.

Trade Tribute to F. W. Morrison

The subscription list to the F. W. Morrison Testimonial Fund will be closed on Saturday, May 15.

The presentation will be made at the next monthly general meeting of the branch, on Tuesday, May 18.

It is expected that the President, Harry Simpson, and the General Secretary, W. R. Fuller, will be present.

Live Entertainments Wanted

An agitation has been started in Newport to prevail upon the Watch Committee to reopen the old Newport Empire, it being pointed out that since it fell into disuse some years ago living entertainment has been lost to the people of Newport and Monmouthshire. Throughout the whole of the county there is not one theatre.

TOKEN REDUCTIO CROSS-OVER NEWS

S. and E. Lancs Request to Headquarters

TERMS for newsreels, mainly cross-overs, ga discussion at the general meeting of mem and East Lancashire Branch at Manchester on was decided to write to headquarters sugge should be a token reduction in price. J. presided.

Mr. KAY (Rochdale) opened with this broadside: The new arrangements provide that two exhibitors pay for one newsreel. Why? It means one renter will get something for nothing. It does not seem right that a renter should get revenue when he is not supplying anything. I think the C.E.A. in London has taken the easy line.

A. PEEL (Accrington) considered that as a matter of equity, there should be a reduction in respect of double runs.

The CHAIRMAN: In London it was stated that a reduction could not be entertained.

New Contract Attacked

W. W. LLOYD (Oldham) said he had received a copy of a supplementary agreement form for newsreels. This contained three clauses which differed from the old contract. One of these reserved to the renter the right to increase his charges at any time. The old contract was rendered null and void—"frozen."

How could one sign such a contract when one of the parties was allowed, without prior agreement, to increase his charge for the same article? If the new contract was not signed, did the old contract cease to be effective?

The CHAIRMAN: I should say that if you want a newsreel you must sign the new agreement. The new contract takes the place of the old one.

Several members expressed disinclination to sign the new contract.

Who Benefits?

J. BREARLEY: Although there will be some saving to the newsreel companies it will be mainly in film stock, not in the cost of production. We should not lose sight of the benefit we enjoy by the saving of film stock, which becomes available for other purposes. What we have to pay is a contribution to secure the smooth running of our business.

The CHAIRMAN: If the exhibitor feels he is being "soaked," the only thing he can do is to do without the newsreel.

One exhibitor said he booked a certain newsreel for £10 10s.; in future he would have to share in a copy of a newsreel for which another exhibitor paid £9 9s.

Pressure for Reduction

T. A. CLAUGHTON remarked the newsreel companies would save 50 per cent. in raw material costs, 50 per cent. in printing and 50 per cent. in distribution. As the kinema paid the cost of transport from hall to hall, he actually paid an increase. If the newsreel companies were to receive increased fees for the product which they put out there seemed a strong case for a token reduction for exhibitors.

The CHAIRMAN said the newsreel companies reckoned there could not be any reduction because of extra arrangements for which they had to provide.

J. BREARLEY stated the worst feature about the supplementary contract was the clause reserving for them a frozen asset for an unknown period, and in the meantime they could ask for an increase. Any increase should be mutually agreed. The new contract was not needed; the circumstances would have been met by a letter to exhibitors extending the pre-ent contract for the duration.

C.E.A. Asked to Help

It was decided to send a letter to C.E.A. headquarters requesting that the clause giving th increase prices stating that no factory if it com form of a threat letter will also tion in the price the saving in fil distribution

Passing on the

On the question ment Tax, membe to pass on to the of the advance. sised that that Chancellor of the be a sorry day acted contrary to his calculations. foolishly pay the be simply putting their own backs. suggested, should This would mean handle in the pay-boxes and the handling of queues, day nights.

T. LEWIS: When I hope we shall low prices we used tainment has been want our business the public mind with was the case a few

Coun. J. C. WHITAKER: If the 10d. seat to 1s. we are taking situation.

Seats Below 1s.

T. A. CLAUGHTON reminded the that the Chancellor had refrained touching seats below 1s. It should be forgotten that a large percentage the population were no better off before the war. Any idea of increas the prices of the low-priced seats wrong. No recommendation of that should be made.

W. H. ELLWOOD: If we put up seats to 1s. we shall be condemned the public, but some of the theatres introduced a 1s. minimum year ago.

Saying he propos seats to 1s. and tha bute to easing the boxes, the CHAIRMA change would be complaint.

"G.W.T.W." Bo

Question was ask jections to the book With the Wind" b

The CHAIRMAN: N still the same. applies. Perhaps booked this featu shortage of other

Carbons Question

Reports were pres of future carbon st naire; and the sho the British Red C

4-Week Ru

Such was the T Columbia short, "S 109," that this featu the Jack Benny given a four week Leicester Square, a further two week

FOR FILMS E.A.

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ter the right be deleted ct could be a clause in crease prices or a token newsreels becaus rock, printing

ing Terms

Have the terms for withdrawn The position embargo exhibitors because of

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RKO-R ADIO SALE CONF RENCE

*T*HE sp *l RKO-Radio*
Confere which is to be
held over t week-end coin-
cides with greatest box-
office boom er enjoyed by
the compa Almost every
week since beginning of
the year ha een the general
release of a bject which has
proved exc ionally success-
ful in all p of the country.

RKO-Radio' provincial branch
nagers wil e present at the
sion Trade reening of "For-
r and a De the great all-star
ture, at t Leicester Square
atre to-da Thursday, May 6.
10.30 a.m.

Following t presentation, the
agers and h ad office executives
to meet in conference under the
irmanship of Ernest Simon,
eral sales manager, where they
l be acquainted with the ambi-
s plans for the British distribu-
n of the subject.

The opportunity will also be used
outline to the assembly the
nd line-up of pictures currently
ng prepared for early presenta-
n in this country. The first of
se films, Samuel Goldwyn's
hey Got Me Covered," co-
rring Bob Hope and Dorothy
mour, the screen's greatest box-
ce team, is to be screened at the
mbridge Theatre to-morrow at
30 a.m., and will, too, be seen
the RKO-Radio provincial
resentatives.

Flight for Freedom," "Hitler's
ildren" and "Tarzan
umphs," the three newest films
be shown, are but the forerunner
a programme considered to be
ny the greatest in the com-
y's history. "This Land is
e," a new Charles Laughton
Maureen O'Hara co-starring
ele; "Mr. Lucky," starring
Grant; "The Sky's the
it," starring Fred Astaire;
mbardier," starring Pat
rien; "A Lady Takes a
nce," co-starring Jean Arthur
John Wayne; "The Yellow
ary," teaming Anna Neagle and
ard Greene and "Escape to
ger," the s and Eric Portman
Ann rak co-starring
ele, are i ded in the new
O-Radio pro tion programme.

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t Kramer been appointed
l Artists' h manager at Car-
ceeding M **Williamson,** who has
f the forces Kramer's popular
dsky first its impact on the
-ster sixteen rs ago, when he
r M-G-M sales representa-
Four year er he joined Uni-
d and at th ne of the amalga-
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ager and a nt to the sales
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ecial Lon representative for
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Humphryes been transferred
the control Plaza, Chiches-
to manage the n, Bognor Regis,
e he was rmerly assistant
ager. His k dge of the house
s patrons w invaluable.

SHARE MARKET

	This Week.	Movement.
African Theatres Ord. ..	62/6	— 1/6
Assoc. Brit. Pic. Corp. 5/- Ord.	14/10½	— -/1½
,, 6% Pref.	23/9	+ -/1½
,, 5% Debs.	£103½	— 10/-
A.P.P.H. Ord.	20/-	+ -/6
Brit. & Dom. Films £1 ..	3/4½	— -/4½
Brit. Lion 7½% Pref. 10/-	10/6	— -/6
Capital Prov. News 5/- ..	4/-	—
Cine. Television Dfd. (6d.)	5/9	—
Dufay-Chromex 5/- Ord.	4/4½	+ -/1½
Gaumont British Ord 10/-	14/9	— -/9
,, "A" Ord.	7/7½	— -/4½
,, 5½% 1st Pref. ..	20/4½	— -/4½
,, 4½% New Debs. ..	£102½	— 5/-
General The. Prefd. ..	12/6	—
,, 6½% 1st Mort. Deb.	£101	— 10/-
Mde. Tussaud 1/- Def. ..	1/4½	— -/1½
,, £1 Prefd. Ord. ..	15/-	—
Moss Empires £1 Ord. ..	33/-	—
,, £1 Cum. Pref. ..	19/9	— -/3
Odeon 5/- Ord.	17/9	+ -/9
,, 6% Pref.	21/6	—
,, 5% Debs.	£102	—
P.C.T. 7½% Ptg. Pf. Ord.	32/3	— -/1½
,, Cum. "A" Pref. £1	26/-	— -/3
,, Cum. "B" Pref. ..	28/-	+ -/3
,, Const. 7% Pref. ..	25/10½	— -/1½
Scophony	3/5	— -/1
Sound City (Films) 6% Pref.	7/6	—
Stoll Th. Corp.	10/4½	+ -/4½
Twentieth Cent. Ord. ..	1/1½	—
,, 6% Pref... ..	3/4½	— -/1½
Union Cinemas Ord. ..	2/6	—
,, 1st Pref.	20/- ..	—
,, 2nd Pref.	19/-	— -/3

£1 shares unless otherwise stated.

CALL-UP AFFECTS ISLE OF MAN HALLS

Strand Cinema Meeting

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Strand Cinema Theatre Co., Ltd., one of the leading Manx circuits, the Chairman (F. P. Kearsley) said it was regrettable that the calling of operators was not deferred in the Isle of Man as it was on the mainland. They were working the operating-boxes with skeleton staffs, as they had been unable to replace those who had joined up. If these staffs were further depleted, it might be impossible to keep all the theatres open.

The balance-sheet, showing a net profit of £15,263, was approved, and the dividend of 10 per cent. confirmed. T. Mawdsley, the retiring director, was re-elected.

The Chairman said replacement had become impossible, and large sums of money would have to be spent after the war to bring furnishing, seating and general equipment back to standard.

T. J. Gwilliam, formerly manager of the Odeon, Llandudno, discharged from the Army on medical grounds, has taken over the managership of the Odeon, Exeter.

REACTION IN KINEMA ISSUES

Profit-Taking Continues

IT is not surprising that the reaction in kinema shares, due to profit-taking, is continuing, for the whole market has had a steep rise lasting well over a year, and a reaction seemed due anyway.

During the past week there were again very few movements in favour of holders. Two notable exceptions were provided by Odeon 5s. ordinary, which rose 9d. to 17s. 9d., and Stoll Theatres Corporation, which recovered to 10s. 4½d., a gain of 4½d.

A.P.P.H. ordinary were 6d. better at 20s.

Otherwise it was a tale of declines. African Theatres, though outside the scope of the British market to some extent, fell 1s. 6d. to 62s. 6d. British and Dominions fell 4½d. to 3s. 4½d., and British Lion 7½ per cent. 10s. preference 6d. to 10s. 6d.

A.B.P.C. were fairly steady, but Gaumont-British ordinary lost 9d. at 14s. 9d., and the "A" ordinary 4½d. at 7s. 7½d. Small irregular movements occurred in the P.C.T. group.

Benstead's New Company

A new film company, the British Australasian Film Corporation, Ltd., has been registered by Geoffrey Benstead, a film producer and director. The offices are at 23, High Street, Corsham, Wilts. The nominal capital is £1,000 in £1 shares.

The British Australasian Film Corporation will act as their own distributors.

New Private Companies

Empire Cinema (Watford), Ltd.—Registered April 22. Capital, £1,500 in 1,500 shares of £1 each. Objects: To acquire the Empire Cinema, Watford. Solicitors: Penny and Hunt, Berkhamsted. Registered office: Empire Cinema, Merton Road, Watford.

Grey and Morris Productions, Ltd.—Registered April 17. Capital, £100 in 100 shares of £1 each. Producers of plays, films, etc. The directors are Frankland Grey and Christopher T. R. Morris. Solicitors: Peachey and Co., Arundel House, W.C.2.

Harold Wills, Ltd.—Registered April 17. Capital, £1,000 in 1,000 shares of £1 each. Film transporters and haulage contractors, general carriers, etc. The directors are Harold Wills, 42, Gillinggate, Kendal, Westmorland; Wm. Bowness, Staveley Villa, Blackpool Old Road, Poulton-le-Fylde. Solicitors: C. G. Thomson and Wilson, Finkle Street, Kendal. Registered office: 42, Gillinggate, Kendal.

Mayfair Circuit (Restaurants), Ltd.—Registered April 16. Capital, £1,050 in 1,000 6 per cent. cumulative preference shares of £1 each and 1,000 ordinary shares of 1s. each. Restaurant proprietors, caterers, etc. Secretary: E. E. Perriman, 5, Culross Street, W.1. Solicitors: Upton, Britton and Lumb, W.C.1.

CHANGES OF NAME

S.E. Cinemas, Ltd., 47, Temple Row, Birmingham.—Name changed to Mayfair Circuit (Tyseley), Ltd., on April 20, 1943.

Mortgages, Charges and Satisfactions

Riverside Studios, Ltd. Studio and kinema proprietors, etc., Crisp Road, Hammersmith, W.6.—Mortgage dated April 16, 1943, to secure all moneys due to National Provincial Bank, Ltd.

Odeon Properties, Ltd.—Mortgage on car park adjoining Odeon Cinema, Camberwell, dated April 9, 1943 (supplemental to £3,500,000 first debenture dated August 25, 1942). Holders: Branch Nominees, Ltd.

Intimate Cinemas (Adwick), Ltd., 453, London Road, Heeley, Sheffield.—Mortgage on the Empire Palace, Adwick-le-Street, Doncaster, dated April 10, 1943, to secure all moneys due to National Provincial Bank, Ltd.

SATISFACTIONS

Odeon (Woolwich), Ltd., Henley House, 2, Chesterfield Gardens, W.1.—Satisfaction in full on November 18, 1942, of debenture dated February 16, 1939, and registered March 7, 1939. (Notice filed April 19, 1943.)

Satisfactions in full between August 25, 1942, and March 10, 1943, have also been filed with similar particulars in respect of Odeon Theatres at Hereford, York, Taunton, Redhill, Spalding, Brighton, Deal, Bournemouth, Newport, I.W., Colwyn Bay, Bury, Faversham, Lewes, Rickmansworth, Bromley, Isleworth, Bridgwater, Ashford, Bolton, Wolverhampton, Chorley, Herne Bay, Ramsgate, Reading, Hanley, Dudley, Peterborough, Rhyl, Wrexham, Burnley, Horsham, Lowestoft, Bury St. Edmunds, Yeovil, Forest Gate, Newport, Mon., Sittingbourne, Boston, Exeter, Morecambe, Penge, Epsom, Peckham, Erith, Llandudno, Redcliffe, Southsea, Swiss Cottage, Bristol, High Barnet, Bradford, Leicester, Deptford, South Norwood, Acton, Halifax, Uxbridge, Norwich, Leicester Square, Dundee, Brentwood, Balham, Llanelly, Dulwich, East Ham, Luton, Hackney, Ayr, Hamilton, Motherwell, Edgware Road, Mile End, and Eltham Hill. (All filed on April 19, 1943, with registered offices at Henley House, 2, Chesterfield Gardens, W.1.)

Alexander Korda Film Productions, Ltd., Denham Studios, Denham, near Uxbridge, Mdx.—Satisfaction in full on September 1, 1941, of charge dated June 27, 1940, and registered July 5, 1940, securing £90,000. (Notice filed April 23, 1943.)

Swindon Cinemas, Ltd., 31, Stoke Newington Road, N.16.—Satisfaction in full on February 16, 1943, of debenture dated July 2, 1935, and collateral mortgage of even date, and registered July 9, 1935.

Curry's Tivoli Theatre of Varieties Company (Great Grimsby), Ltd., 30-31, Golden Square, W.1.—Satisfaction to the extent of £4,000 on March 12, 1943, of debentures authorised December 1, 1905, and registered December 6, 1906.

Continued from page 5

NATIONAL LICENCE DEMANDED

pal or urban councils, our members seize the opportunity of having one of their own members elected.

In my own branch, he said, we have our member sitting on the local borough council, and just because of that, in the committee stage he can explain just why or not should be the policy of the authorities. It has met with very happy results.

Summing-up these demands, we want a new Charter for the Association, one that can express the fourteen Acts of Parliament under which we now operate, and a standard licence that will allow the exhibitor, big or little, to operate his theatre according to the requirements of his patrons and not to be subject to the whims and fancies of the local licensing boards, who are often inflicted with old-time opinions and prejudices. Men and women returning from the wars will have no patience in these matters, and we as exhibitors are only there to give expression to the wishes of the general public.

I hope, concluded Mr. Simpson, the branches will, when time allows, give some time and discussion to these matters. We have accepted without question many regulations and orders that war makes necessary . . . we have in many cases given up what is very nearly our birthright in order that the Forces should not lack entertainment . . . and so it will be until the end of the war, and so we should receive some benefit in the peace that will surely follow.

PORTSMOUTH CHILDREN POSE TWO PROBLEMS

Reduced Price Admissions and Damage to Furnishings

WARM tribute was paid to the work put in by the Entertainment Tax Committee of the C.E.A. at the meeting of the Portsmouth and I. of W. Branch on April 28. P. J. Milsom presided, and it was unanimously decided to recommend members to pass on the tax to the public in all cases.

F. B. B. BLAKE, branch delegate, explained the incidence of the new tax and said an endeavour has been made to retain the 1s. 3d. seat, but in this particular instance the Tax Committee had been unsuccessful.

They had, however, succeeded in eliminating such prices as 1s. 1d. 1s. 5d., and 1s. 8d., and in this connection they must congratulate the Committee on the success of their efforts.

The Public Must Pay

The CHAIRMAN said they should recommend all their members to pass on the tax, and Mr. BLAKE added that as practically 65 per cent. of the admissions all over the country were on prices up to 1s. 6d., the exhibitors would suffer a very severe blow if they attempted to pay any of the tax themselves.

CHARLES CLARKE added his tribute to the wonderful work done by the Tax Committee, and he moved that the branch place on record its appreciation of the splendid job the Committee had done.

F. B. B. BLAKE seconded, and this was carried.

CHARLES CLARKE then moved that all their members be advised to pass on the tax to the public, and this was seconded by PATRICK REED and carried.

Children's Prices

The General Secretary, W. R. FULLER, forwarded the list of children's prices suggested by the circuits, but F. B. B. BLAKE said that if 9d. was to be charged for the 1s. seat, as proposed, the 2s. 3d. seat should be at least 1s. 6d., and not 1s. as recommended.

The CHAIRMAN said that as there would be no 1s. 6d. seats under the new tax arrangements, it was possible that the circuits were trying to eliminate one roll of tickets.

F. B. B. BLAKE said it seemed ridiculous to have one children's price admitting to three differently priced lots of seats. It was proposed that 1s. should admit to the 1s. 9d., 2s. and 2s. 3d. seats, and with one half-price the children would obviously take advantage of the best seats.

CHARLES CLARKE suggested that the children's prices should be left to the discretion of the members, on the understanding that in this case also they passed on the tax.

P. J. MILSOM seconded, and this was carried.

Sabotage

The branch discussed at some length the question of malicious damage and possible remedies. F. B. B. BLAKE stated that the experience gained all over the country was that where attention had been drawn to malicious damage through trailers and slides, it had invariably produced more damage. It had put ideas into the heads of the younger generation, and they had thought it clever to go and do likewise. The most effective method had been to put on a slide offering a substantial reward for information that would lead to the conviction of any culprit, but trailers had only encouraged the trouble.

W. C. ELLIOTT remarked that where children had been barred from the kinemas it had also had a good effect.

P. J. MILSOM said that while that might be successful in some districts, it was almost impossible to bar specific children in a city like Portsmouth, especially with ever-changing staffs. He had had five cases of seat slashing in a year, and that had invariably happened when the slide offering a reward had been forgotten.

CHARLES CLARKE said he thought there was cause for a nation-wide campaign to put down malicious damage, which was a deterrent to the war effort. He had endeavoured to get the matter raised in General Council, but without success. Wanton damage was costing the country thousands of pounds, and only a national effort would stop it.

R. DAVIES BEYNON quoted cases from all over the country, and said it was costing £180 a week to repair the shelters in Portsmouth, and soon repairs would be impossible. It was, of course, a national concern, but as their efforts in that direction had proved abortive, it was up to them to see what could be done as a domestic matter.

It Became a Joke!

W. C. ELLIOTT said the only suggestion he could make was that they should continue showing the slide offering a reward. The trailer had had very little effect. After it had been shown a few times it became a joke, and he had to withdraw it. He would also like to see an addition made to the slide, stating that any individual prosecuted would be barred from every kinema in Portsmouth.

R. DAVIES BEYNON said he had two suggestions. One was that the Association should offer a really substantial reward for information. The other was that they should give serious consideration to the appointment of a Vigilante Committee, consisting of their patrons, and that those selected to serve on that committee should be given authority to go to any kinema to watch for people who were seat-slashing and damaging their theatres. Every time they had the opportunity they should prosecute, because he believed the prosecution itself was a deterrent.

F. B. B. BLAKE said that some years ago, when there was an epidemic of seat-slashing, plain clothes constables were given complimentary tickets for the theatre in their off-duty hours, and they soon discovered who were the hooligans. The more they drew attention to the matter, however, the more it put ideas into these people's heads, and they acted out of sheer bravado.

A. LEVISON said he thought it must be obvious that they could not find any effective way of barring certain people from all the kinemas. They would find ways and means of securing admission, and then it would be spread around that they got in without any difficulty, and the trouble would grow.

F. B. B. BLAKE pointed out that the magistrates imposed the bars.

The CHAIRMAN: Then it becomes a police matter. He suggested that a combination of the various methods should be brought into operation in the various kinemas where the owner or manager thought it desirable, and that whenever a person was caught there should be a prosecution.

It was agreed that the matter should be left as suggested by the Chairman.

A Local P.R.O.

The suggestion was made that the branch should appoint its own publicity officer when it was reported that the Portsmouth resolution urging the appointment of a Public Relations Officer for the C.E.A. had failed to find any support in the General Council.

For the Prisoners of War

Reference was made to the fact that the first fortnight's collection in approximately 1,000 kinemas for the Prisoners of War Parcels Fund of the British Red Cross had amounted to £91,911, as compared with £65,633 for the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund during the same period, and W. C. ELLIOTT suggested that further steps should be taken to publicise this. So far as Portsmouth was concerned, he thought it would be a good thing if the total collections in the kinemas could be given in the local Press instead of the amounts raised by one or two individual halls.

The Secretary (A. DANIELS): Why not appoint our own Public Relations Officer for the branch?

W. C. ELLIOTT added that they did not want to make publicity for individual halls out of charity efforts, and R. DAVIES BEYNON suggested that the members could agree among themselves not to send in individual paragraphs but to wait until the total raised was known.

F. B. B. BLAKE said he thought the Red Cross should have acknowledged through the Press the amount collected from all the kinemas.

Eventually, it was left to the SECRETARY to ascertain from Mr. Fuller the total amount collected in the Portsmouth kinemas with a view to a suitable paragraph being published locally, drawing attention to the total raised in the city for the fund through the co-operation of the exhibitors.

S.O. Conditions

MR. BLAKE reported that the battle against some of the objectionable conditions attached to Sunday opening was still being waged in various parts of the country, and in most instances the exhibitors were winning. A firm stand was being made, and where these conditions were being persisted in the exhibitors were refusing to open their kinemas.

Other Business

Attention was drawn to the testimonial fund being raised by the Northern Branch to demonstrate their appreciation of the long and valuable service rendered by F. W. Morrison, "father" of the General Council, and on the motion of R. Davies Beynon, seconded by F. B. B. Blake, it was decided to make a donation of three guineas.

R. DAVIES BEYNON extended the sympathy of the branch to the chairman on the fact that one of his company's kinemas had been put out of commission by enemy action, also to Mr. Salter on the loss of his home in the same raid. Mrs. Salter walked out of the débris, and Mr. Davies Beynon said they were all glad to know that she had been spared.

Notification was received of the nomination of Lieut.-Col. S. K. Lewis as the member for the Apollo, Southsea, in place of C. W. Couzens.

Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour in a scene from THEY GOT ME COVERED, which RKO-Radio will Trade show on Friday, May 7, at 10.30 a.m.

Cinematurians Take Stock

A BUSY FIRST YEAR

The Society of Cinematurians' first annual meeting will be held at the Regal, Manchester, tomorrow, Friday, May 7.

Stan. W. Pink, hon. secretary, reports that membership is now 1[illegible] including leading personalities in all branches of the Industry and allied trades. Members are located as far afield as London and Newcastle-on-Tyne. Inquiries about the Society had been received from India and U.S.A.

Collections for the C.T.B.F. luncheon meetings yielded £9[illegible]s. 1[illegible] and in consequence the society had been made a vice-governor of "Glebelands" and a vice-president of the C.T.B.F. S. W. Pink had been appointed liaison officer between the society and the C.T.B.F.

In its first year the society has been able to invest £10[illegible] and still has cash in hand of £76.

An unusual [illegible] announcement accompanies the [illegible] calling the annual meeting. It says: "With one or two exceptions, mainly to the necessity of present continuity of management, the Council has decided that it is not in the interests of the society to exercise rights of nomination as *ad lib.* as formerly, consequently done" [illegible] the election of officers and council.

"The officers and council retire by rotation under offer themselves for re-election. There is nomination of all members for the council's nominations this year are: President, S. Dawson; vice-president, W. J. Gell; B.E.; chairman, W. J. Speakman; secretary, Stan. W. Pink."

Other retiring officials who offer themselves for re-election are: hon. secretary, Arthur [illegible]; hon. treasurer, Arthur [illegible]; auditor, H. Norman Hart, B.A.; Wilson Moorhouse, A.C.A.; council members, C.T.B.F., S. W. Pink, J. Abbott, J. Gell, W. Gordon Smith, T. Bedford, T. sall, L.R.I.B.A., in Mortimer, Robinson, F.C.I.S., of N.[illegible] H. Brooks. For T. Ames Service, A. Galley re-election, retire and do not

PROVINCIAL TRADE SHOWS

BIRMINGHAM
F.RUM Wed. May 12 10.30 a.m.

CARDIFF
C.YMPIA Wed. May 12 10.30 a.m.

NEWCASTLE
H.YMARKET Wed. May 12 10.30 a.m.

NOTTINGHAM
C.RLTON Fri. May 14 10.30 a.m.

GLASGOW
REGAL Fri. May 14 10.30 a.m.

LEEDS
RITZ Tues. May 18 10.30 a.m.

MANCHESTER
GAUMONT Wed. May 19 10.30 a.m.

SHEFFIELD
HIPPODROME Wed. May 19 10.30 a.m.

LIVERPOOL
FORUM Thurs. May 20 10.30 a.m.

SAMUEL GOLDWYN

LAUGHINGLY PRESENTS

ANOTHER TOP MONEY SHOW

BOB IS AN UNDERCOVER MAN IN WASHINGTON ..

If you want somethi g Fu

... AND THE SPIES ARE THICK AS FLIES...

TRADE SHOW
CAMBRIDGE
THEATRE
TO-MORROW
FRIDAY
MAY 7
at 10-30 A.M.

... THEN THE PLOT THICKENS..

← Hope t ickeni the pi t!

...NY *this is a honey...*

Samuel Goldwyn
LAUGHINGLY PRESENTS

BOB HOPE Dorothy LAMOUR

THEY GOT ME COVERED

Directed by DAVID BUTLER

Screen Play by HARRY KURNITZ
Original Story by LEONARD Q. ROSS and LEONARD SPIGELGASS
AN R K O RADIO RELEASE

YOU'LL GET A GREAT BANG OUT OF IT!

AND BEFORE THE FINAL GONG HOPE PRACTICALLY WINDS UP IN A "SARONG"

(No Kidding!!)
This is their FUNNIEST AND MOST EXCITING

New Films at a Glance

Title and Renter.	R.T. and Certificate.	Stars.	Remarks.	Box-Office Guide.
Cabin in the Sky ... (M-G-M)—American.	99 min. (A)	Ethel Waters, ... Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, Lena Horne.	Colourful all-black musical extravaganza, adapted from the Broadway success. Story naïve, yet profound, characterisation brilliant, comedy bright and human angle strong.	Outstanding novelty booking, particularly for good and high-class halls. Safe for the family.
*Catherine the Great ... (Premier)—British.	95 min. (A)	Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Elisabeth Bergner.	Historical drama, well presented with good acting, romance and thrills. Originally reviewed in KINE. January 18, 1934.	Good general booking. Not for juveniles.
Flight for Freedom ... (RKO-Radio)—American.	102 min. (U)	Rosalind Russell, ... Fred MacMurray, Herbert Marshall.	Spectacular aerial romantic melodrama with an evergreen triangle theme. Acting very good, production elaborate and feminine angle strong.	Very good general booking. Good for the family.
Gay Desperado, The ... (Independent F.R.)—American.	86 min. (A)	Nino Martini, ... Leo Carillo, Ida Lupino.	Strong and animated melodrama tinged with humorous satire, of a band of Mexican brigands who try to copy American gangsters. Originally reviewed in KINE. October 29, 1936.	Admirable entertainment for almost any type of audience. Strong meat for children but devoid of any offence.
How's About It ... (G.F.D.-Universal)—American.	62 min. (U)	The Andrews Sisters, Robert Paige, Grace MacDonald.	Light-hearted romantic comedy musicale. Story slight, but cast versatile, staging pleasing and numbers tuneful.	Attractive second for most halls. Good for youngsters.
*Miss London, Ltd. ... (General F.D.)—British.	98 min. (U)	Arthur Askey, ... Evelyn Dall, Jack Train.	High spirited, romantic comedy rag with a neat and novel theme. Stars in good form, numbers tuneful and production work excellent.	Capital light booking. Good for the family.
Mug Town ... ... (G.F.D.-Universal)—American.	60 min. (A)	Billy Halop, ... Huntz Hall, Grace MacDonald.	Adolescent comedy melodrama with a stereotyped rehabilitation theme. Story and technical presentation adequate.	Fair average programmer. Nothing to harm youngsters.
Rhythm of the Islands ... (G.F.D.-Universal)—American.	59 min. (U)	Allan Jones, ... Jane Frazee, Andy Devine.	Romantic comedy musicale, set in the tropics in the palmy pre-war days. Story slight, but stars in good form and numbers tuneful.	Good average second. Safe for youngsters.
Slightly Dangerous ... M-G-M—(American).	94 min. (U)	Lana Turner, ... Robert Young, Walter Brennan.	Attractively mounted romantic comedy giving a new interpretation of the evergreen Cinderella theme. Story fabulous, but characterisation good and staging elegant. Feminine appeal obvious.	Good light booking for the masses and family.
Stage Coach ... ... (I.F.R.)—American.	96 min. (U)	Claire Trevor, ... John Wayne, Thomas Mitchell.	Period Western, great story of hazardous stage coach journey in early days of Indian peril. A worthwhile reissue.	Great stuff for Western fans. Good box-office proposition
Stand In ... ... (I.F.R.)—American.	90 min. (A)	Leslie Howard, ... Joan Blondell, Humphrey Bogart.	Behind the scenes story of Hollywood, with satire, humour, romance and great star values. Excellent reissue.	Excellent light booking. Nothing to offend the family.
Trade Winds ... ... (I.F.R.)—American.	93 min. (A)	Fredric March, ... Joan Bennett, Ann Sothern.	Detective comedy drama covering chase round half the world—with humour and romance. Out-of-the-rut story. Reissue.	Popular booking for all classes. Nothing to harm youngsters.

* A British Picture.

REVIEWS FOR SHOWMEN

Cabin in the Sky

M-G-M. American (A). Directed by Vincente Minnelli. Featuring Ethel Waters, Eddie "Rochester" Anderson and Lena Horne. 8,867 feet. Release not fixed.

COLOURFUL all-Black musical dramatic comedy fantasy, neatly adapted from the spectacular Broadway success, turning on the domestic and spiritual vicissitudes of a well-meaning yet weak nigger who slips from the straight and narrow, but is ultimately brought to heel through a hectic dream in which he sees himself as the particular pigeon of rival emissaries of Heaven and Hell.

The play, which is written in the modern diction, gives a warm and amusing picture of the average nigger's naïve impression of God and the Devil, and colours it with equally ingenuous but none the less moving and effective atmosphere and detail. It also successfully reiterates the "Green Pastures" and "Hallelujah" technique by underlining its varying moods, ranging from the sublime to sheer burlesque, with appropriate music and song. Profound parable and rousing pantomime in one, its novelty values alone knock on the box-office door. Outstanding "speciality" booking, particularly for good- and high-class halls.

Story.—Little Joe Jackson, a humble nigger, is genuinely in love with Petunia, his loyal and understanding wife, but cannot resist a gamble. While his wife is praying for his soul, he visits the local saloon, gets involved in a brawl and is knocked out. During his period of unconsciousness he dreams that "The General," a lieutenant of God, and Lucifer, Jun., son of the Devil, are ruthless and unrelenting rivals for his soul.

Lucifer, Jun., bribes him with a lucky sweep ticket and Georgia Brown, the local vamp, gets to work on him; but, although he resists temptation, Petunia, acting on past experience, doubts him. He then lets rip, but a neat twist promotes the desired happy ending.

Acting.—Ethel Waters, who, incidentally, is a superb torch singer, and Eddie "Rochester" Anderson give completely natural portrayals as Petunia and Little Joe. Lena Horne exudes sex appeal as Georgia, and Rex Ingram and Kenneth Spencer impress as Lucifer, Jun., and "The General."

The Hall Johnson Choir adequately furnishes the good serious singing. ...nd Duke Ellington and his Orchestra take ...ual care of the exuberant swing interludes.

Production.—The extravagant st... which illustrates in somewhat lurid c... ours the unhappy hero's journey to the edg... of perdition, personifies Good and Evil ... circumstances that not only make the he... illusion plausible, but allow its equally he... by-play, complete with low saloon sequ... to be relieved by tender domestic asides.

Petunia's loyalty to Little Jo... ...nd his sincere, if not always successful. ...ermination to resist temptation invests ... allegory with a compelling human interest. ... whole is colourful novelty entertainme... for the masses, and profound parable for ... exploitacan peer beneath the surface. Astu... ...ox-office tion should put it well in the ... the rest. running, its undoubted merits will ... rofound.

Points of Appeal.—Naïve, yet ... comedy, story, strong human angle, boister... ...triguing versatile musical intermissions, ... title, clever cast and big novelty ...

Continued on page 23

GFD
HOW'S ABOUT IT!
A UNIVERSAL Picture

RHYTHM of the ISLANDS

GFD

PROVINCIAL TRADE SHOWS

BIRMINGHAM Scala
Thursday, May 6, at 10.30 a.m.
CARDIFF Park Hall
Friday, May 7, at 10.30 a.m.
SHEFFIELD Cinema House
Friday, May 7, at 10.30 a.m.
NEWCASTLE Essoldo
Friday, May 7, at 10.30 a.m.
GLASGOW La Scala
Friday, May 7, at 10.30 a.m.
LIVERPOOL Scala
Tuesday, May 11, at 10.30 a.m.
NOTTINGHAM News Theatre
Friday, May 7, at 10.45 a.m.
MANCHESTER Gaiety Theatre
Friday, May 7, at 10.45 a.m.
LEEDS Tower P.H.
Tuesday, May 11, at 10.45 a.m.

RELEASED MAY 10

DEAD END KIDS *and* LITTLE TOUGH GUYS

TOWN

Billy HALOP Huntz HALL
Bernard PUNSLY Gabriel DELL
Grace McDONALD Tommy KELLY
Jed PROUTY Edward NORRIS

Directed by RAY TAYLOR
Associate Producer, KEN GOLDSMITH

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

PROVINCIAL TRADE SHOWS

BIRMINGHAM Scala
Thursday, May 6, at 10.30 a.m.
CARDIFF Park Hall
Friday, May 7, at 10.30 a.m.
SHEFFIELD Cinema House
Friday, May 7, at 10.30 a.m.
NEWCASTLE Essoldo
Friday, May 7, at 10.30 a.m.
GLASGOW La Scala
Friday, May 7, at 10.30 a.m.
LIVERPOOL Scala
Tuesday, May 11, at 10.30 a.m.
NOTTINGHAM News Theatre
Tuesday, May 11, at 10.45 a.m.
MANCHESTER Gaiety Theatre
Tuesday, May 11, at 10.45 a.m.
LEEDS Tower P.H.
Wed., May 12 at 10.45 a.m.

RELEASED JUNE 21

tinued from ...e 20

Mi... London, Ltd.

...eral F.D. ...ish (U). Directed by Val ...st. Feat... Arthur Askey, Evelyn Dall ...Jack Tra... 8,934 feet. Release June 14, 1943.

...IGH-SPI... ED romantic comedy rag, ... generou... embellished with really ...eful song... voting on a near bankrupt ...ney whic... endeavours to provide charming ...rts for l... officers on leave. The central ...is not ... bright and topical, but ...loited wi... ...p and polish. The popular ...s and ci... supporting players are in ...sistible ... the direction is resourceful ...the tec... ...l presentation tip-top. One ...Askey's ... it is money in the bank for ...ily and i... ...trial halls. It's also the stuff ...give the... ...oops. Capital British light ...king.

...tory.—Ar... ...r Bowman, an easy going little ...n, and Jo... Nelson, his goofy assistant, run ...s Londo... Ltd., a "girl-friend" agency, ...find the... ...ing hard because their goods ...out of ... ...ate. Terry Arden, a young ...erican gi... inherits a half-share in the ...siness and ...quickly engages new stock. Gail ...rtin, a railway announcer, is one of the ...htest of the bright young things, and she ...booked for a dinner date with Captain ...y O'Moore, a handsome but lonely ...helor.

...ail and Rory fall in love at first sight, but ...hur and Joe insist upon shadowing Gail ...gum up the works. Rory resents their ...terference, and he and Gail quarrel, but ...y are reconciled in time for Rory, who owns ...shionable hotel, to put Miss London, Ltd., ...its feet. At this juncture Arthur is called ...and fades from the screen in sailor's ...form.

...cting.—Arthur Askey, Evelyn Dall and ...k Train are Arthur, Terry and Joe, and ...y put over a number of gags and good im...sonations—they are seen as the Marx ...thers and burlesquing themselves as well ...other famous stage and screen personalities. ...e Shelton sings well as Gail, and Peter ...ves is adequate as Rory. Max Bacon, ...hard Hearne and Jean Kent also make ...ir presence felt.

...roduction. — The crazy, happy-go-lucky ...y is set in motion by a particularly tuneful ...mber, and, apart from a few conventional ...antic intermissions, is responsible for a ...ery, fast-moving, refreshingly carefree and ...antly mounted mixture of burlesque, ...dy and song. The leading comedians and ...dienne improvise cleverly and their tire... teamwork, augmented by showmanlike ...ection and good tunes, prevents any other ...ks in the ...matic thread. Laughter is its ...et for the most part, and its aim is true. ...r values ... double a popular comedy cer...ity.

...oints of ...ppeal.—Bright story, versatile ... snapp... numbers, excellent staging, ...nguing tr... and obvious star values.

Sli...tly Dangerous

...-M. An... ...can (U). Directed by Wesley ...gles. F... ...turing Lana Turner, Robert ...ng and ...Walter Brennan. 8,465 feet. ...Release not fixed.

...TTRACT... ...LY mounted romantic ... comedy ...bulating the fabulous adven...s and r... ...dventures, culminating with ...peal of ...d-plated wedding bells, of a ...king girl, ...io, to escape from her hum...n surron... ...gs, feigns amnesia and poses ...the lo... ...st daughter of a crusty ...onaire. ...e story is too extravagant ... untidy ... appeal to the sophisticated, ...the ... ...ying of its laughs and ...t-throbs ... its sleeve does not prevent ...om ma... ...g agreeable and ingratiating ...e-believe. ...s talented and experienced ...s and ex... ...ient production qualities give additional strength to its popular veneer. Good light booking for the masses and family.

Story.—Peggy Evans, an attractive soda-jerker in a chain store, kicks over the traces and forces Bob Stuart, the handsome new manager, to fire her. She then spends her savings on new clothes and a "perm" and sets out to go places. Before she gets very far a pot of red paint topples from a scaffold on to her head. She feigns amnesia to get compensation, and, as a result of her subterfuge, is accepted by Cornelius Burden, an irascible but big-hearted millionaire, as his long-lost daughter. Meanwhile, everybody believes that she has committed suicide and blame Bob. Bob is forced to resign and his only way of getting his job back is to find Peggy. He does, but the two have a rare tussle before they discover they are in love, and the bamboozled Burden gives them his blessing.

Acting.—Lana Turner acts convincingly in the opening scenes and dresses superbly in the latter. Robert Young meets all demands as Bob, and Walter Brennan lends considerable conviction to the rôle of Burden. Dame May Whitty, Alan Mowbray and Eugene Pallette contribute clever supporting studies.

Production.—The picture, or rather story, makes no appeal to the intelligence, neither is there any attempt to seal its many loose ends, but it does enable the romantically minded to share in the heroine's hectic and rosy daydreams. It also encourages them to laugh a little while they muse. Its amiable make-believe, cunningly coloured by resourceful stellar portrayals and elegant staging, is its open sesame to feminine and popular appeal.

Points of Appeal.—Sketchy, but appealing and amusing story, very good characterisation, attractive staging, strong feminine angle, intriguing title and obvious star values.

How's About It?

General F.D. - Universal. American (U). Directed by Erle C. Kenton. Featuring the Andrews Sisters, Robert Paige and Grace MacDonald. 5,520 *feet. Release June* 28.

LIGHT-HEARTED and headed romantic comedy, with music and songs, telling how a young songwriter settles an action for plagiarism by throwing his cap at the attractive suitor. The story is a foregone conclusion, but good work by the Andrews Sisters, popular syncopated singers, and Shemp Howard, eccentric comedian, and attractive stagecraft help to eke out its handy footage. One way and another, it is well equipped to fill the rôle of "chaser" to a strong first feature. Attractive "second" for the majority of halls.

Story.—George Selby, a successful songwriter, is sued for plagiarism by Marion Bliss, a charming and spirited young woman. He tries to settle by offering her a job, but Oliver, her jealous lawyer boy friend, refuses to let her play ball. By the time the case comes to court George and Marion are in love and romance leads to an amicable settlement. In the interim, Alf, a tough who had served the original writ on George, gets three singing lift-girls in the Selby building a break on the air. Both plot and by-plot happily converge on the fadeout.

Acting.—Robert Paige and Grace MacDonald do all that is asked of them, as George and Marion, and The Andrews Sisters, Shemp Howard and Bobby Scheerer, a clever young hoofer, also leave nothing to chance in direct support.

Production.—The spritely, if artless, story and good variety trimmings keep the ball merrily rolling, while an exhilarating patriotic naval grand finale, featuring new and appropriate words to the famous "Beer Barrel Polka," brings the amiable rag to a rousing close. It's good, cut-to-popular pattern comedy musicale.

Points of Appeal.—Frivolous yet amiable and laughable story, pleasing numbers, versatile cast, bright spirits and accommodating footage.

Rhythm of the Islands

General F.D. - Universal. American (U). Directed by Roy William Neill. Featuring Allan Jones, Jane Frazee and Andy Devine. 5,335 *feet. Release May* 10, 1943.

ROMANTIC comedy musicale, set in the tropics in the palmy pre-war days, illustrating fast work by two pals who operate a "dude" island in the South Seas. The story is as tall as it is thin, but there are a number of tuneful songs, one or two good cracks, a bevy of "native" beauty, and the principal players improvise effectively. Its agreeable embellishments and colourful escapist atmosphere more than keep its inconsequential end up. Good average second.

Story.—Tommy Jones, a handsome young American, and his irresponsible pal Eddie invest in a small tropical island and put over an act for the benefit of gullible tourists. Tommy poses as a native chief and Eddie as a beachcomber, but just as they are about to unload at a handsome profit on Mr. Holton, a henpecked millionaire, real natives from a neighbouring island invade. To add to their troubles, Susie, Eddie's tough Brooklyn girl friend, also puts in an appearance. However, romance between Tommy and Joan, Holton's attractive daughter, eventually paves the way to a happy ending.

Acting.—Allan Jones sings pleasantly and cuts a dashing figure as Tommy, Andy Devine gathers a number of laughs as Eddie, and Mary Wickes gets a few more as Susie. Jane Frazee is a charming Joan.

Production.—The story is frivolous and the settings, although ambitious, contain more colour than conviction, but the gay, impromptu approach covers up many of the shortcomings. Tuneful songs and glamorous pseudo-native chorines do the rest. It should have no difficulty in tickling the fancy of the weary war worker.

Points of Appeal.—Frivolous, if amusing, story, versatile and attractive cast, good tunes, happy comedy and intriguing title.

Mug Town

General F.D.-Universal. American (A). Directed by Ray Taylor. Featuring Billy Halop, Huntz Hall and Grace MacDonald. 5,361 *feet. Release not fixed.*

VIGOROUS adolescent comedy melodrama telling how a band of Dead End Kids escape from the slums into a more salubrious atmosphere and celebrate their change of environment and outlook by rounding up a ruthless gang of fur thieves. The sentimental angle is given greater emphasis than usual, but otherwise the plot conforms to pattern. Fair average popular programmer.

Story.—Steve, Tommy, Pig, Ape and String, five little tough guys, find it expedient to leave town. They steal a ride on a goods train, but Steve is killed when they try to outwit the guard. They are given a home by Mrs. Bell, Steve's mother, and later save Don, Steve's weak brother, when he gets entangled with fur thieves. Meanwhile, the Japs attack Pearl Harbour and the rumpus is the cue for them to join up. They leave the screen, true to to-day's tradition, in khaki.

Acting.—Bill Halop, Huntz Hall, Bernard Punsley, Gabriel Dell and Tommy Kelly repeat their well-known act with zeal as "The Little Tough Guys," but the adult support does not amount to much.

Production.—The story contains plenty of surface action, but no love interest and not much point. Exuberant horseplay, punctuated with a few machine-made sentimental touches resulting from the unhappy predicament of Steve's mother, accounts for most of the entertainment. It's juvenile in more ways than one.

Points of Appeal.—Crowded action, resourceful adolescent portrayals, adequate technical presentation, patriotic touch and star values.

Continued on page 24

Continued from page 23

Flight for Freedom

RKO-Radio. American (U). Directed by Lothar Mendes. Featuring Rosalind Russell, Fred MacMurray and Herbert Marshall. 9,135 feet. Release not fixed.

SPECTACULAR aerial romantic melodrama, obviously inspired by the meteoric career of Amelia Earhart, America's foremost aviatrix. It concerns the rivalry of a happy-go-lucky air ace and a quiet, unassuming designer for a brilliant young woman flyer, who, after making winged history, finally straightens out her complicated love life by deliberately going to her death to counteract the Japanese menace in the Pacific. The crowded tale is not closely knit, neither is it in a hurry to get cracking, but the smooth, appealing and vital acting of Rosalind Russell, the effectively contrasted supporting portrayals and particularly good technical presentation and showmanlike climax are liberal compensation for its prodigious footage. Add stars and title values and an irresistible feminine angle, and the answer is attractive if not epic popular adventure fare. Very good general booking.

Story.—Tonie Carter, an intelligent and attractive young woman, determines to make a name for herself as a flyer. She and Randy Britton, a famous ace, meet and fall in love, but Randy does not approve of aviation as a career for women. After an idyllic holiday together their views clash and they separate.

Paul Turner, a designer, is in love with Tonie, and she returns his affections by breaking records with a machine equipped with his patent propeller. Finally, she agrees to marry Paul, provided she succeeds in completing an around-the-world flight. Meanwhile, Randy learns that the Japs are arming mandated islands in the Pacific. The Admiralty contacts Tonie and arrange to use her flight as a cloak to get pictures. Randy collaborates, but, following a meeting which convinces the two that they are still in love, Tonie deliberately crashes her 'plane to thwart a Japanese counter-plan.

Acting.—Rosalind Russell gives an appealing and smoothly balanced portrayal as Tonie, and Fred MacMurray and Herbert Marshall are just right as Randy and Paul. The support is equally competent.

Production.—The story takes some considerable time to warm up—there is more than enough record-breaking flying and technical detail during the first half—but once the ever-green triangle theme is allowed to develop and trouble is stirred up in the Jap-menaced Pacific rousing aerial action and popular romantic sentiment effectively commingle. The ending is an unhappy one, but its heroic stature makes it flattering to women. Its psychology, as well as its showmanship, definitely gives it substantial box-office credentials; so does its galaxy of stars.

Points of Appeal.—Crowded and spectacular story, exciting and inspiring feminine angle, neat comedy and sentimental twists, impressive flying sequences, good title and big star values.

FIVE IMPORTANT REISS

Stage Coach

International Film Renters. American (U). Directed by John Ford. Featuring Claire Trevor, John Wayne and Thomas Mitchell. 8,627 feet. Release not fixed.

REISSUE of one of the greatest "Westerns" ever screened; the depiction of a journey by stage coach in the days when American Indians were still on the war path, and looting, burning and pillaging were rampant. The story is slow in starting, but between the leisurely opening and the climax the intervening reels are the most intense and exciting cowboy stuff ever screened.

Staging, acting, direction and photography are equally excellent, and the second appearance of "Stage Coach" should prove of entertainment value to the great mass of the public who are appreciative of good thrillers of "Westerns" and the open spaces.

First reviewed in the KINE. WEEKLY March 23, 1939.

Trade Winds

International Film Renters. American (A). Directed by Tay Garnett. Featuring Fredric March, Joan Bennett and Ann Sothern. 8,450 feet. Release not fixed.

DETECTIVE comedy drama of girl who shoots sister's betrayer and manages to evade arrest. Reward of $100,000 is offered for her capture, and private detective Sam Wye is put on the trail. The chase extends over half the world and is in the nature of a Cook's tour. Eventually, Sam makes his arrest, only to fall in love with his captive. The story is suspenseful, abounding in scenic interest with spirited acting and enlivened by one scene of abounding humour when Jean mixes her cocktails.

The ingenious plot finishes at San Francisco, where the accused is tried and convicted but freed by the disclosure of the real culprit's identity in a most unlooked-for climax.

First reviewed in KINE. WEEKLY January 12, 1939.

Stand In

International Film Renters. American (A). Directed by Tay Garnett. Featuring Leslie Howard, Joan Blondell and Humphrey Bogart. 8,175 feet. Release not fixed.

BRILLIANT and humorous satire on Hollywood studio methods with crooked plot to lower standard of production quality and enable gang to take over property at ridiculously low valuation. With a cast of star names, outstanding acting by Joan Blondell, abounding humour throughout, and the additional curiosity of the film fans for behind-the-scenes methods in a studio, it has much to commend it as a reissue and ought to be popular box-office value on its second booking.

Previously reviewed in KINE. WEEKLY November 11, 1937.

The Gay D

Independent F.R. Am... by Rouben Mamoulia... Martini, Leo Carrillo. 7,944 feet. Rele...

SPECTACULAR and ... melodrama, with a ... and superb singing by ... story concerns a bunch ... who take a leaf out of th... book, and their exploits, ... scenery and impeccably ... good popular as well as ... ment. The film was or... KINE. of October 29, 193... as admirable entertainm... audiences. A second sl... original impression.

Catherine th

Premier. British (A). Czinner. Featuring Doug... Elisabeth Bergner, Geral... Flora Robson. 8,650 fee... fixed.

THIS is an important ... definitely one of th... helped to make Alexander ... as a producer.

It was notable for its re... Russian atmosphere, for its ... by Georges Perinal, and fo... Paul Czinner's direction.

It deals with the effor... Empress of all the Russias, ... cessor to the throne by mar... to the daughter of the Princ...

Although it is not alw... correct, it is dramatically s... certain degree of topical inte... time.

Classed as a good general ... should still be welcomed to-... Elisabeth Bergner's name ... quite as much now as it di... talking and technical quali... recognition.

In addition, there are D... Jun. (now in the U.S. Navy ... Robson and the late Sir Ge... In short, a good type of film...

SHORTS OF TH

GENERAL F.D.

†*BOOGIE WOOGIE BU... COMPANY B.* American ... *Release not fixed.* — C... describing the effect of the ... dance band draftee on a s... Animation, colour work, ... effects good. Very good car...

†*SALT WATER DAFF...* 614 *feet. Release not* ... cartoon extravaganza giving ... tive impression of the buil... a new interpretation of n... ment bright and colou... good. Very good general ...

†In Colou...

EQUITY'S SIX TOP LINE REISSUES

Box Office with a Punch

Although it is generally recognised that the serious reduction in the number of new features can only be offset by the playing of selected reissues, too often the latter possess few box-office claims to consideration. Bernard Smith, of Equity British, however, is offering six first feature productions which have already been acclaimed by the critics as first-class entertainment for the masses.

These six subjects are offered with confidence at a time when audiences are seeking escapist entertainment. They comprise—

"Two's Company" (U), with Ned Sparks and Gordon Harker in the most amusing comedy partnership ever presented on the screen.

"There Goes the Bride" (U), with Jessie Matthews; a gorgeous musical with a brilliant cast which includes Carol Goodner, Roland Culver, Jerry Verno, Owen Nares, etc. "One of her best British comedies."

"Chick" (U), with Sydney Howard in a bit of delightful nonsense which has already earned the showman's approbation as a top-notch piece of entertainment.

"Turkey Time" (A), adapted from the Ben Travers play, is a comedy full of side-splitting situations which give full play to Tom Walls and Ralph Lynn, the most famous comedy team in the world. The cast also includes Robertson Hare and Dorothy Hyson.

"No Lady" (U), a comedy extravaganza starring Lupino Lane with Lola Hunt and Sari Maritza. "A sure laughter-maker."

"Talk of the Devil" (A), a thrilling drama starring Ricardo Cortez and Sally Eilers which has been screened as a modern melodrama, with exceptional appeal and a plot of imaginative development.

REPUBLIC'S NEW PRODUCTIO

Laud

Cables from H... of Republic, evid... and praise whic... policy is already...

Particular emp... connection, upon ... tion which ha... "Idaho," the fir... pictures to be... studios gave th... cowboy's films a ... ceiling in view ... money-spinning ...

"Idaho" is h... questionably the ... has ever made ... attractive box-o... every possible a...

Balc[illegible] Plans Tw[illegible] Big Su[illegible]jects

CAVAL[illegible] ANTI AND WATT [illegible]IRECTING

IRECTO[illegible] HARRY WATT, famous- such contempor- the Crown Film "Targe[illegible]r To-night" and [illegible]al Ba[illegible] "Nine Men," is [illegible]porarily [illegible]doning drama for [illegible]x. H[illegible] [illegible]t assignment will [illegible]ew T[illegible] [illegible] Trinder musical, [illegible]llers [illegible]e," scheduled to [illegible] the [illegible]r at Ealing in [illegible]nuary.

[illegible]m—pu[illegible]omedy set in Ancient [illegible]n the [illegible]ld days of Nero—will [illegible]complete[illegible]nge for Trinder, too, [illegible]the serie[illegible] themes of his last two Angus MacPhail wrote the [illegible]of "Fo[illegible]rs Three" in collabora- [illegible]with Di[illegible] Morgan, who is also [illegible]nsible for the lyrics.

Half-Way House"

[illegible]canti is searching for suitable [illegible]ions for exteriors in Michael [illegible]oles forthcoming "Half-Way [illegible]se." Last week he was in Devon, [illegible]week he's doing the rounds of [illegible]iff.

Half-Way House" is a drama of [illegible]an problems set in the shadows of [illegible]ghostly inn. The complete cast has [illegible]yet been fixed.

[illegible]gus MacPhail and Diana Morgan—collaboration with Roland Pertwee—[illegible]e the script based on an original [illegible] by Denis Ogden.

BUTCHERS RAID RADIO

[illegible]ars with big air-borne reputa- [illegible]s top the bill in Butcher's new [illegible]ure production, "Somewhere Civvies," which F. W. Baker is [illegible]ducing at Riverside.

[illegible]eral members of the talented com- [illegible]s which Frank Randle, the star, [illegible]made universally popular on the [illegible]s well as on the stage will lend [illegible]a hand in his latest screen venture, George (What's the matter with [illegible]) Doonan, together with Suzette [illegible]n go direct to the Riverside Studios [illegible]n their highly successful 20 weeks [illegible]Follies of the Air."

[illegible]S. Laurie, Butcher's production [illegible]nager, is making a close secret of [illegible]names of [illegible]ect more wireless talent [illegible]it has been [illegible]secured. At present, at [illegible]close of t[illegible]first week of production, [illegible]k. Geor[illegible]and Suzette have been [illegible]g all [illegible] work under Maclean [illegible]s' direc[illegible]n. Early scenes clearly [illegible]cate tha[illegible]he story takes place in [illegible]s of [illegible]ice and plenty" for [illegible]le appe[illegible]to be something in the [illegible]ling lin[illegible]d, judging by the way [illegible]and Guy [illegible]orey (Mr. Pilkington, his [illegible]ntice) [illegible]ense paint, glass and [illegible]erals fo[illegible]rly common to their pro- [illegible]hen that [illegible]ppy state of plentitude [illegible]here agai[illegible]n Con West's contribu- [illegible]'n Butci[illegible]s already widely popular [illegible]nowhere[illegible]eries of comedies.

John [illegible]axter Busy in [illegible]Glasgow

[illegible]rand c[illegible]inue to hold the floor Elstree, John Baxter, when has [illegible]shed exteriors in [illegible]gow a[illegible]Clydeside, moves in [illegible]rds th[illegible]nd of the month to [illegible]r work "The Shipbuilders." [illegible]Baxter [illegible]his unit have been [illegible]up no[illegible]during the week, but [illegible]now b[illegible]at British National [illegible]the p[illegible]ect of a further visit [illegible]desig[illegible]rly in the month.

Leslie Howard who is supervising the Two-Cities film, THE LAMP STILL BURNS, and director Maurice Elvey rehearsing a scene with Rosamund John and Stewart Granger

"YANK" HERO OF TANKER EPIC

Charles Frend at Ealing

A STURDY, rather truculent young fellow faces a British sea captain in a ship's broker's office in Texas. "I'm looking for a one-way working passage to England so I can join the R.A.F.," he announces. The captain shakes his head. "Sorry, we can't take Americans. Law about non-belligerents." "O.K.," says the young fellow, "I'm a Canadian."

The scene is one from the current week's shooting on "San Demetrio, London," which Charles Frend is directing at Ealing, and portrays how Oswald Preston, adventurer, joined the crew of the oil tanker *San Demetrio*. How Preston distinguishes himself in the subsequent rescue of the tanker after she had been set ablaze by a German pocket battleship and abandoned in mid-Atlantic will form the thrilling subject of future shooting.

When the details of the real-life exploit were first revealed—just after its occurrence in November, 1940—the owners of the *San Demetrio* presented Preston (nicknamed by his mates "the Yank") with the ship's Red Ensign. He never came forward to claim it for, unhappily, he was reported missing after a London Services Club at which he was believed to be staying was struck by a bomb, the role being played by Robert Beatty.

Other important members of the *San Demetrio* crew are played by the following: Mervyn Johns, Walter Fitzgerald, Ralph Michael, Charles Victor and Gordon Jackson. James Donald, who attracted great attention last week by his performances in the two new Noel Coward plays now running at the Haymarket, also appears.

Scenes have also been shot during the current week on sets on the tanker's smokeroom, her gun-decks and the captain's cabin.

Old and New Contrasted

"The Lamp Still Burns"

Last week saw the conclusion of the more intimate scenes in "The Lamp Still Burns," which Leslie Howard is supervising and Maurice Elvey directing at Denham Studios for G.F.D. release, before returning once more to the activity of a hospital ward—this time the Women's Ward.

The background against which most of last week's sequences were shot was the main corridor of the hospital and Matron's room. This part of the hospital forms the new wing, and from the art director's viewpoint provides an interesting contrast to the old wing which is definitely of the early Victorian era. On the new wing, Art Director Alec Vetchinsky had a completely different field in which to work. Wide, clean, sweeping lines, no carving or cornices, provided a great contrast.

These were the backgrounds for several tricky scenes shot last week between Matron (Cathleen Nesbitt) and probationer Rosamund John), handled brilliantly by director Maurice Elvey.

Victor Saville, prominent British producer who has been some years with M-G-M in Hollywood, has been released from his contract by mutual agreement to join another company.

"THE WAY AHEAD"

Army Epic in Preparation

Two Cities will shortly produce an important feature film with the approval and co-operation of the War Office, to be entitled "The Way Ahead."

Carol Reed will direct and the story and script will be written by Eric Ambler and Peter Catinov. The picture, which has been described as an "In Which We Serve" of the Army, will be released by General Film Distributors.

"BEES IN PARADISE" MOVES

At the conclusion of location work in the West Country, Maurice Ostrer, in charge of production, and producer Edward Black plan to transfer the current Islington musical comedy, "Bees in Paradise," directed by Val Guest, to Shepherd's Bush, together with Fred Gunn, Phil Grindrod and other key members.

Scenes covered during the past week at Islington involved a large set representing a sandy clearing on the island with a broken 'plane in the background. One of the most difficult shots for the camera to cover was the descent of a parachute from the studio roof to envelop Arthur Askey, Max Bacon and Peter Graves when they are searching for Ronald Shiner, the remaining member of the crew. Guest has now moved on to the interior of a billiards room where Askey, dressed as a girl, acts as marker for the women of the island and sings a duet, "I'm in a Hither and a Dither," with Jean Kent. Large crowds of women will appear towards the end of the week in a Court House scene where Anne Shelton pleads for Askey's life, and Beatrice Varley, as an old crone, explains to the court exactly why no man's life is worth sparing!

H. L. Harman, who has been invalided out of the Royal Corps of Signals, has returned to the management of the Regent, Weston-super-Mare, which he relinquished when he joined up in 1941. **Leo D'Ayton,** who succeeded Mr. Harman, has gone to Cardiff as manager of the Empire. While at the Regent Mr. D'Ayton paid special attention to the musical side of the programmes.

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RKO-RADIO'S FORTHCOMING PROVINCIAL SHOWS

IN order that provincial exhibitors may obtain the earliest possible opportunity of viewing "Forever and a Day," the great all-star feature, and Samuel Goldwyn's "They Got Me Covered," which co-stars Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour, RKO-Radio have completed plans for presenting these major features in key centres during the next few weeks.

"Forever and a Day" will be shown in seven cities on May 11, in Nottingham on May 12, and Sheffield on May 14. A screening will also take place in Belfast on May 19.

"They Got Me Covered" is to be presented in Birmingham, Cardiff and Newcastle on May 12. Two days later the film will be shown in Nottingham, Glasgow and in Leeds on May 18. There is a showing in Sheffield on May 19 and in Manchester on the same day. The final presentation will take place in Liverpool on May 20.

Many of the provincial screenings of "They Got Me Covered" will be personally attended by Arthur Dent, Samuel Goldwyn's representative in this country. It is Mr. Dent's intention to be present at Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds and Sheffield.

"THIS HAPPY BREED"

Progress on Coward's New Film

Many lively scenes in the "house in Clapham," the main settting for the Coward-Two Cities Film "This Happy Breed," have already taken place between Grandma Gibbons and her relatives.

All last week the unit of "This Happy Breed" were making the "wedding" sequences, and Director David Lean was busy manœuvring the Gibbons Family and neighbours, and the Technicolor paraphernalia in and out of the front parlour and little hallway. The life-like effect of the "true to life" dimensions of the composite set are amply repaying the additional difficulties of colour-photographing the scenes. Next week they go on to the sequences of the departure of Queenie, the wilful lovely Gibbons daughter, played by Kay Walsh.

Seat Damage in Scotland

At Govan Juvenile Police Court last week three youths were charged with wilfully damaging a stalls seat in a south-side house. One youth, a sixteen year old, was fined £1 with the option of ten days in a remand home. In the other two cases a verdict of 'Not proven" was given. Kinema proprietors hope that magistrates will co-operate with them in stamping out this evil.

Cinema Club Luncheon

Cinema Club members are reminded that the Monthly Luncheons are to be continued, thanks to the co-operation afforded the Club by Gaumont-British. The next luncheon on Friday, May 14, will be held in the Picture House Cafe, Sauchiehall Street, at one o'clock.

Pierre Aumont and Susan Peters in ASSIGNMENT IN BRITTANY, forthcoming M-G-M picture

BRITISH LION READIES NEW GROUP

"Action Stations" is the order of the day at British Lion, where a new group of pictures from the Republic studios are being readied for Trade showing.

Pre-eminent among the forthcoming repertoire will be the highly promising "Hit Parade of 1943," a musical comedy conceived and produced to a pattern more lavish and colourful than has ever before been achieved by this progressive organisation, and in keeping with the policy—the advantage of which was recently evidenced by the successful "Flying Tigers"—of producing an increasing number of expensive first-rank pictures.

Leading the cast of "Hit Parade of 1943" will be John Carroll and Susan Hayward, supported by a good selection of other well-known artistes, three first-class orchestras and a garnishing of brilliant revue and cabaret talent. British Lion has no doubt that "Hit Parade of 1943" will prove to be the most successful picture that Republic has yet turned out.

The perennially popular Gene Autry will once more be represented, this time in what bids fair to be his best film to date, "Call of the Canyon."

"Johnny Doughboy" provides a well-contrived opportunity for the youthful talent in which Republic is particularly rich; versatile Jane Withers co-stars with Henry Wilcoxon.

Donald M. Barry fades in the dramatic chord with "The Traitor Within," a fast-moving tense story with a topical motif.

Sky-rocketing Roy Rogers finds a worthy place in two musical Westerns of the new style, and rounds off in sparkling fashion a programme that promises to be of unusual interest.

The services of the manager and organist of the Majestic, Darlington, Harry Millen, have been retained by Odeon, and he has received a generous presentation from the directors of the Majestic.

MENUHIN IN U.A.'s LATEST

"Stage Door Canteen"

Yehudi Menuhin, one of the world's greatest violinists, has made his first appearance in a film, and millions of his admirers who have hitherto only heard him on the radio will have an opportunity of seeing this superb artiste on the screen. He has recorded two pieces for Sol Lesser's "Stage Door Canteen," the film which has assembled the greatest cast of outstanding players ever brought together in a single picture.

Menuhin appears as himself, and one of the two pieces which he plays is the ever-popular "Ave Maria" by Schubert.

Among the famous artistes appearing in "Stage Door Canteen" are Mary Pickford, Gertrude Lawrence, Alfred Lunt, Lynn Fontaine, Marlene Dietrich, Merle Oberon, Gracie Fields and the orchestras of Kay Kyser, Benny Goodman and Xavier Cugat.

The picture is directed by Frank Borzage and will be released through United Artists.

20th-FOX DEAL WITH G.-B.

R. Sutton Dawes, 20th Century-Fox Director of Sales, announces a further important sales deal with Gaumont-British.

"The Light of Heart," the Monty Woolley-Ida Lupino starring comedy based on Emlyn Williams' geat stage success; "China Girl," topical drama of the Far East with an outstanding cast headed by Gene Tierney, George Montgomery, Lynn Bari and Victor McLaglen; "Girl Trouble," sophisticated comedy, starring Don Ameche and Joan Bennett, and the thrilling Technicolor drama of the air, "Thunder Birds," will all play the entire Gaumont-British circuit.

Early West End presentation of these pictures is now being arranged.

West Country Dema... Gradi...

THE Presi... President ... tary attended ... of the Brist... meeting on T... subject of g... tives of the ... Devon and Co... attended.

The discuss... A. B. ATKINS... that the asso... thirty years a... were very diffe... are to-day, an... the present me... obsolete.

Dissatisfied

In connection ... scheme put for... Country branches ... had a very bad ... wanted to know ... was to be conside... meeting.

He insisted that ... brought up at the ... cent. of the delega... the proposals put ... Country branches ...

General Council's View

W. R. FULLER ... general secre... denied that the present system ... obsolete, and said that nothing had ... put forward to substantiate that ... ment. They had carried on with ... system satisfactorily for many y... The West Country branches propose... reduce the subscription of the "A" ... by two guineas a year, and to ha... that they suggested that the small ... should have their subscription incre... from two to three guineas.

The Legal, Financial and P... mentary Committee turned it down ... man. A scheme of that nature w... never get the support of the bulk o... members.

The General Council preferred to ... until they knew what their expe... would be in the future, and when ... knew that their expenses would ... exceed their income they would pre... a scheme and submit it to all branc...

Mr. ATKINSON pointed out that ... West Country branches could not ... the figures they asked for, and ... scheme they sent up to the Ge... Council was sent up for discussio...

Mr. FULLER said they did not ... what they had to budget for in ... future. They did not want the as... tion to make money—all they want... have was a small surplus.

The question of the suppression o... discussion on the matter from the r... of the General Council was also bro... up by GEORGE REES, who wante... know whether ther... was any pol... motive behind it. ... Several mem... raised this point, ... nd it was a... that the possibility ... as that it wa... quite democratic.

Mr. FULLER m... tained that ... C.E.A. was an ex... dingly demo... organisation, and ... an essentia... democracy was fre... om of speech ... The hope was ... xpressed that ... matter would be ... ought up at ... annual meeting o... C.E.A. next ...

"STAN... NG ROO... O... Y"

Bought b... Paramou...

Paramou... has purch... "Standing Room ... only," an ori... screen story b... Al Martin, ... modern exciting ... ashington ... setting, and B. ... De Sylva, e... tive producer, ... s it as a sta... vehicle for Ro... ind Russell ... Fred MacMurr...

The play is ... the same ... romantic mod... "Green ... Woman," in w... by the two ... were teamed ... Paramount ... marked succe...

If names count for anything—

ROSALIND RUSSELL

+

FRED MacMURRAY

+

HERBERT MARSHALL

PRODUCER **DAVID HEMPSTEAD** • DIRECTOR **LOTHAR MENDES**

TRADE SHOW OFFERS—APRIL, 1943

Title.	Renter.	Running Time.	Certificate.	Length.	Stars.	Box-Office Angle.	"Kine." Review.	Release Date.
Air Force	Warner ...	113 min.	A	11,128 ft.	John Garfield, Gig Young ...	Excellent general booking. Nothing to harm youngsters	April 15, 1943	Not Fixed
*Bells Go Down, The...	United Artists	88 min.	U	8,000 ft.	Tommy Trinder, James Mason	Good general booking. Nothing to harm youngsters	April 22, 1943	May 17, 1943
Border Patrol	United Artists	65 min.	U	Approx. 6,000 ft.	William Boyd, Andy Clyde ...	Good average Western. Juveniles will like it ...	April 1, 1943	Not Fixed
Bowery at Midnight ...	Pathe	61 min.	A	5,538 ft.	Bela Lugosi, Wanda McKay ...	Good thriller for the industrial element. Not for youngsters	April 22, 1943	June 28, 1943
Bullets for O'Hara ...	Warner ...	49 min.	A	4,462 ft.	Joan Perry, Roger Pryor ...	Reliable second for the masses. Should not harm youngsters	April 1, 1943	Not Fixed
Commandos Strike at Dawn	Columbia ...	99 min.	A	8,973 ft.	Paul Muni, Anna Lee	Excellent general booking. Safe for the family ...	April 1, 1943	May 17, 1943
Criminal Investigator ...	Pathe	61 min.	A	5,503 ft.	Robert Lowery, Edith Fellows	Sound average programmer. Safe for the family	April 1, 1943	May 3, 1943
Crystal Ball, The ...	United Artists	81 min.	U	7,323 ft.	Ray Milland, Paulette Goddard	Capital light booking for all classes	April 1, 1943	July 19, 1943
Dixie Dugan	20th Century-Fox	65 min.	U	5,996 ft.	Lois Andrews, James Ellison ...	Adequate light booking. Good for the family ...	April 29, 1943	Not Fixed
Dudes are Pretty People	United Artists	45 min.	U	4,146 ft.	Jimmy Rogers, Noah Beery, Jr.	Comedy fill-up for small halls. Should please kids	April 1, 1943	Not Fixed
Fangs of the Wild ...	A.B.F.D. ...	58 min.	U	5,240 ft.	Dennis Moore, Luana Walters	Second mainly for the unsophisticated. Good for juveniles	April 15, 1943	Not Fixed
†Fiesta	United Artists	44 min.	U	3,993 ft.	Ann Ayars, George Negrete ...	Fair popular hall second feature. O.K. for juveniles	April 1, 1943	Not Fixed
Fin du Jour, La	Studio One ...	93 min.	A	8,400 ft.	Victor Francon, Louis Jouvet...	Very good specialised hall booking	April 22, 1943	Not Fixed
*Fires Were Started ...	G.F.D.... ...	60 min.	U	Approx. 5,000 ft.	Members of the N.F.S. ...	Excellent general booking	April 1, 1943	April 12, 1943
Foreign Agent	Pathe	62 min.	A	5,596 ft.	John Shelton, Gale Storm ...	Good programmer for the masses. Nothing to harm youngsters	April 22, 1943	June 7, 1943
*Gentle Sex, The ...	G.F.D.... ...	90 min.	U	8,370 ft.	Jean Gillie, Joyce Howard ...	Excellent general booking. Great for the family	April 8, 1943	May 24, 1943
Girl Trouble	20th Century-Fox	82 min.	U	7,364 ft.	Don Ameche, Joan Bennett ...	Fair average title and star offering for other than industrial halls. O.K. for children	April 1, 1943	Not Fixed
*Greek Testament ...	A.B.F.D. ...	45 min.	U	4,137 ft.	Vrassidas Capernaros	Excellent and most interesting documentary for any hall	April 22, 1943	Not Fixed
Guerrillas and Heroes ...	Anglo-American	67 min.	A	6,050 ft.	Russian Cast	A story told so naturally that it seems to be a factual record. Will compel sympathy from all	April 8, 1943	Not Fixed
Gunman from Bodie, The	Pathe	63 min.	A	5,665 ft.	Buck Jones, Tim McCoy ...	Sound Western support. Good for youngsters in spite of its "A" certificate	April 22, 1943	June 14, 1943
He Hired His Boss ...	20th Century-Fox	72 min.	U	6,534 ft.	Stuart Erwin, Evelyn Venable	Good support for most halls. Will appeal to the family	April 8, 1943	Not Fixed
Hello, Beautiful	United Artists	93 min.	U	8,437 ft.	George Murphy, Anne Shirley ...	Attractive light booking for most halls. Safe for youngsters	April 8, 1943	Not Fixed
Hitler's Children ...	RKO-Radio ...	82 min.	A	7,377 ft.	Tim Holt, Bonita Granville ...	Excellent general booking. Hardly suitable for youngsters	April 22, 1943	Not Fixed
*I'll Walk Beside You ...	Butcher ...	86 min.	U	7,902 ft.	Richard Bird, Lesley Brook ...	First-rate popular booking. Great for the family	April 22, 1943	Not Fixed
Junior Army	Columbia ...	69 min.	U	6,218 ft.	Freddie Bartholomew, Billy Halop	Sound programmer for the family element. Good for youngsters	April 1, 1943	June 28, 1943
Laugh Your Blues Away	Columbia ...	69 min.	U	6,268 ft.	Jinx Falkenburg, Bert Gordon	Attractive second for most halls. Good for the family	April 1, 1943	Aug. 16, 1943
Lend Me Your Ear ...	Pathe	60 min.	A	5,480 ft.	James Dunn, Joan Woodbury	Reliable support for the majority of halls. Hardly suitable for youngsters	April 15, 1943	May 31, 1943
Light of Heart, The ...	20th Century-Fox	85 min.	A	7,586 ft.	Monty Woolley, Ida Lupino ...	Excellent general booking. Good for the family...	April 8, 1943	June 7, 1943
*Little Humpback Horse	S.W.N.F.A. ...	80 min.	U	Approx. 8,000 ft.	I. Aleynikov, M. Kovalyova ...	Very good for juveniles. Interesting for specialised audiences	April 15, 1943	No release
Lost Canyon	United Artists	60 min.	U	5,500 ft.	William Boyd, Andy Clyde ...	Reliable outdoor support. Good for youngsters ...	April 1, 1943	Not Fixed
Lucky Jordan	Paramount ...	77 min.	A	Approx. 7,000 ft.	Alan Ladd, Helen Walker ...	Good general booking. Not for juveniles ...	April 29, 1943	May 17, 1943
Margin for Error ...	20th Century-Fox	74 min.	A	6,686 ft.	Joan Bennett, Milton Berle ...	Very good general booking. Safe for the family ...	April 29, 1943	Not Fixed
Meanest Man in the World, The	20th Century-Fox	58 min.	U	5,133 ft.	Jack Benny, Priscilla Lane ...	Sound star comedy programmer. Good for the family	April 22, 1943	Not Fixed
'Neath Brooklyn Bridge	Pathe	61 min.	A	5,503 ft.	The East Side Kids, Anne Gillis	Reliable second for the industrial element. Safe for youngsters	April 1, 1943	May 24, 1943
Night Plane from Chungking	Paramount ...	69 min.	A	6,291 ft.	Robert Preston, Ellen Drew ...	Fair average programmer. Hardly suitable for youngsters	April 22, 1943	May 10, 1943
Night to Remember, A ...	Columbia ...	92 min.	A	8,259 ft.	Loretta Young, Brian Aherne...	Excellent light booking for all classes. Nothing to offend the family	April 1, 1943	May 24, 1943
One Dangerous Night	Columbia ...	76 min.	A	6,897 ft.	Warren William, Marguerite Chapman	Very good general booking. Should not harm youngsters	April 1, 1943	July 19, 1943
[illegible]	[illegible]	76 min.	A	6,772 ft.	Henry Fonda, Dana Andrews...	Out-of-the-rut proposition mainly for specialised audiences. Definitely [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
*Playtime for Workers	Federated ...	50 min.	U	4,584 ft.	Gerry Wilmot, Kay Cavendish	Title and quota fill-up for other than class halls. Safe for youngsters	April 8, 1943	Not Fixed
Prairie Chickens ...	United Artists	45 min.	U	4,241 ft.	Jimmy Rogers, Noah Beery, Jr.	Fair average comedy support. Suitable for children	April 1, 1943	Not Fixed
Russian Guerrillas ...	A.B.F.D. ...	90 min.	A	8,100 ft.	V. Vanin, Marina Ledinina ...	Topical novelty offering mainly for specialised halls. Not for youngsters	April 22, 1943	Not Fixed
Silver Skates	Pathe	80 min.	U	7,284 ft.	Kenny Baker, Patricia Morison	Excellent general booking. Great for the family	April 15, 1943	Not Fixed

*Sons of the Pioneers	British Lion-Republic	61 min.	U	5,511 ft.	Roy Rogers, Gabby Hayes	Fair average Western support. Good for youngsters	April 1, 1943	Floating
Story of Stalingrad, The	Paramount	63 min.	A	5,600 ft.		Outstanding war documentary. Not suitable for youngsters	April 15, 1943	May 17, 1943
Tarzan Triumphs	RKO-Radio	76 min.	A	6,843 ft.	Johnny Weissmuller, Frances Gifford	Capital star and title booking for the masses and youngsters	April 15, 1943	Not Fixed
			U	6,145 ft.	William Bendix, Grace Bradley	Handy support for the masses. Safe for youngsters		
*Thursday's Child	Pathe	82 min.	U	7,363 ft.	Wilfrid Lawson, Sally Ann Howes	Out-of-the-rut booking mainly for family halls. Safe for youngsters	April 1, 1943	Aug. 16, 1943
War Dogs	Pathe	64 min.	U	5,826 ft.	Billy Lee, Ace (the Wonder Dog)	Agreeable support, particularly for family and juvenile audiences	April 22, 1943	June 21, 1943
*We Dive at Dawn	G.F.D.	98 min.	U	8,794 ft.	John Mills, Eric Portman	Excellent war fare. Good for youngsters.	April 22, 1943	June 28, 1943
Young and Willing	United Artists	82 min.	U	7,493 ft.	Wm. Holden, Eddie Bracken	Moderate comedy programmer. Safe for juveniles	April 1, 1943	Not Fixed

REISSUES

Angels with Dirty Faces	Warner	94 min.	A	8,427 ft.	James Cagney, Pat O'Brien	Outstanding box-office value. Nothing to harm youngsters	April 15, 1943	Not Fixed
Anthony Adverse	Warner	140 min.	A	12,800 ft.	Fredric March, Olivia de Havilland	Undeniable box-office proposition for all classes. Too big possibly for children	April 8, 1943	Not Fixed
Captain Blood	Warner	120 min.	U	10,829 ft.	Errol Flynn, Olivia de Havilland	Entertainment extraordinary. Box-office value unimpaired. Appeal to all	April 15, 1943	May 17, 1943
*Convoy	A.B.F.D.	89 min.	A	8,010 ft.	Clive Brook, John Clements	Excellent reissue. Good for the family	April 8, 1943	Floating
*Gone to the Dogs	Renown	62 min.	A	5,700 ft.	George Wallace, John Dobbie	Comedy for the popular halls. Nothing to harm youngsters	April 1, 1943	Floating
I Cover the Waterfront	A.B.F.D.	70 min.	A	6,490 ft.	Claudette Colbert, Ben Lyon	Reliable revival. Hardly suitable for youngsters	April 15, 1943	Floating
*I See Ice	A.B.F.D.	81 min.	U	7,318 ft.	George Formby, Kay Walsh	Capital reissue for the masses, family and youngsters	April 15, 1943	Floating
It's Love I'm After	Warner	90 min.	A	8,193 ft.	Bette Davis, Leslie Howard	Strong appeal to every class. Sound box-office. Little interest to youngsters	April 15, 1943	Not Fixed
*Jail Birds	Sherwood	67 min.	U	6,079 ft.	Albert Burdon, Shaun Glenville	Exuberant entertainment for the masses. Laughs for all ages	April 1, 1943	Not Fixed
*Little Dolly Daydream	Sherwood	66 min.	U	6,019 ft.	Binkie Stuart, Jane Welsh	Sound second feature for popular halls. Strong feminine and juvenile interest	April 1, 1943	Not Fixed

WHAT'S RELEASED IN MAY, 1943

Date.	Title.	Renter.	Reg. No.	Running Time. Min.	Certificate.	Length. Feet.	Stars.	"Kine." Review Date.
MAY 3	Criminal Investigator	Pathe	F. 6306	61	A	5,503	Robert Lowery, Edith Fellows	April 1, 1943
	*Get Cracking	Columbia	Br./Dr. 6257	95	U	8,604	George Formby, Edward Rigby	Mar. 25, 1943
	Keeper of the Flame	M-G-M	F. 6162	100	A	9,039	Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn	Feb. 25, 1943
	Queen of Spies, The	British Lion (Republic)	F. 5943	80	U	7,193	Judy Canova, Joe E. Brown	Dec. 3, 1942
	Quiet Please, Murder	20th Century-Fox	F. 6193	70	A	6,304	George Sanders, Gail Patrick	Mar. 4, 1943
	Shadow of a Doubt	G.F.D. (Universal)	F. 6228	108	A	9,715	Teresa Wright, Joseph Cotten	Mar. 18, 1943
	Submarine Alert	Paramount	F. 6163	68	A	6,125	Richard Arlen, Wendy Barrie	Feb. 25, 1943
MAY 10	City of Silent Men	Pathe	F. 6273	63	A	5,702	Frank Albertson, June Lang	Mar. 25, 1943
	Money for Jam	G.F.D. (Universal)	F. 6227	81	U	7,250	Bud Abbott, Lou Costello	Mar. 18, 1943
	Night Plane from Chungking	Paramount	F. 6326	69	A	6,291	Robert Preston, Ellen Drew	April 22, 1943
	No Time for Love	Paramount	F. 6249	85	U	7,556	Claudette Colbert, Fred MacMurray	Mar. 25, 1943
	Once Upon a Thursday	M-G-M	F. 5463	66	U	5,982	Richard Carlson, Marsha Hunt	July 16, 1942
	Tales of Manhattan	20th Century-Fox	F. 5927	119	A	10,657	Charles Boyer, Rita Hayworth	Nov. 26, 1942
MAY 17	*Bells Go Down, The	United Artists	—	88	U	8,000	Tommy Trinder, James Mason	April 22, 1943
	Blackie Goes Hollywood	Columbia	F. 6133	67	A	6,083	Chester Morris, Constance Worth	Feb. 11, 1943
	Commandos Strike at Dawn	Columbia	F. 6301	99	A	8,973	Paul Muni, Anna Lee	April 1, 1943
	Everything Happens To Us	G.F.D. (Universal)	F. 6246	61	U	5,465	The Ritz Bros., Jane Frazee	Mar. 18, 1943
	False Clues	Columbia	F. 6065	60	U	5,402	Bill Elliott, Tex Ritter	Jan. 21, 1943
	Lucky Jordan	Paramount	—	77	A	Approx. 7,000	Alan Ladd, Helen Walker	April 29, 1943
	Man Without a Conscience, The	Pathe	F. 6274	62	A	5,700	Jean Parker, Ricardo Cortez	Mar. 25, 1943
	Story of Stalingrad, The	Paramount	Non-quota	63	A	5,600		April 15, 1943
	†Thunder Birds	20th Century-Fox	F. 6149	76	U	6,947	Gene Tierney, Preston Foster	Feb. 25, 1943
	Tish	M-G-M	F. 5669	85	U	7,608	Marjorie Main, Zasu Pitts	Sept. 17, 1942
MAY 24	*Gentle Sex, The	G.F.D.	Br./Tr. 6344	90	U	8,370	Jean Gillie, Joyce Howard	April 8, 1943
	Mademoiselle France	M-G-M	F. 6161	104	U	9,345	Phillip Dorn, Joan Crawford	Feb. 25, 1943
	'Neath Brooklyn Bridge	Pathe	F. 6276	71	A	5,503	East Side Kids, Anne Gillis	April 1, 1943
	Night to Remember, A	Columbia	F. 6297	92	A	8,259	Loretta Young, Brian Aherne	April 1, 1943
	Over My Dead Body	20th Century-Fox	F. 6177	68	A	6,117	Milton Berle, Mary Beth Hughes	Mar. 4, 1943
MAY 31	China Girl	20th Century-Fox	F. 6194	96	A	8,615	Gene Tierney, George Montgomery	Mar. 11, 1943
	Lend Me Your Ear	Pathe	F. 6333	60	A	5,480	James Dunn, Joan Woodbury	April 15, 1943
	Three Hearts for Julia	M-G-M	F. 6179	90	A	8,092	Ann Sothern, Melvyn Douglas	Mar. 11, 1943
	When Johnny Comes Marching Home	G.F.D. (Universal)	F. 6225	74	U	6,634	Allan Jones, Jane Frazee	Mar. 18, 1943

REISSUE

MAY 17	Captain Blood	Warner	F. 12655	120	U	10,829	Errol Flynn, Olivia de Havilland	April 15, 1943

* A British Picture † In Technicolor

Continued from page 3

Renters' Quota Returns Analysed

BOARD OF TRADE STATISTICS

tively. Exhibitors' quota was 17 as against 9.

In the future the monetary quota amendment operates whereby the company operating under it need only make one film a year, the balance of its obligations being expended up to 50 per cent. by the purchase of foreign rights of British films.

Meanwhile the Board of Trade figures just issued are interesting in their indication of how the multi-quota footage assisted renters to come within measurable distance of their quota requirements.

8 Treble-Quota

Twenty double-quota films and eight treble-quota films were registered by renters during the year ending March 31, 1943. Footage under the double-quota heading was 161,479, doubled to 322,958, and under the treble quota 71,919 trebled to 215,757. Renters' long-film quota just failed to reach the statutory figure of 20 per cent., the actual footage registered being 18.03. Short films exceeded the quota of 15 per cent., 25.11 being obtained.

Extra Footage Helped

The extent to which the double-treble quota plan assisted renters to attain a long film quota so near to the statutory requirements may be gathered by working out a strict footage percentage. Under this scheme the percentage of British to foreign films works out only at 11.9 per cent.

These facts are taken from a return published by the Board of Trade this week.

Below are the statistics ranged in groups:—

Gabriel Pascal congratulates Francis L. Harley on THE BLACK SWAN, at the premiere of this 20th Fox Technicolor super

Continued from page 3

Newsreel Contracts

Counties Branch at a meeting on Tuesday.

The KINE. understands that the newsreel economy scheme which was launched on Monday worked very smoothly indeed with few hitches or misunderstandings. It was anticipated that the mid-week change would work similarly well, in spite of the brief margin of time between Wednesday and the Thursday bookings of three-day old newsreels.

Adjustments between the newsreel companies in order to avoid too long journeys between Wednesday and Thursday promised well.

1. BRITISH LONG FILMS.

Registration.	No. of Films.	Registered Length. (feet).	Renters' quota. Length. (feet).
Exhibitors' quota only	17	75,347	—
Renters' quota (single)	17	129,812	129,812
.. .. (double)	20	161,479	322,958
.. .. (treble)	8	71,919	215,757
TOTALS	62	438,557	668,527

2. FOREIGN LONG FILMS.

No. of Films. Renters' Quota.	Exempt under Section 4.	Total.	Registered length (feet). Renters' Quota.	Exempt under Section 4.	Total.
453	1	454	3,039,225	7,000	3,046,225

1. BRITISH SHORT FILMS.

Registration.	No. of Films.	Registered Length (feet).	Renters' quota Length (feet).
Exhibitors' quota only	47	45,960	—
Renters' quota	142	160,211	160,211
Totals	189	206,171	160,211

2. FOREIGN SHORT FILMS.

No. of Films.	Registered (and Renters' Quota) length (feet)
459	477,610

III. SUMMARY OF RENTERS' QUOTA PARTICULARS.

	Renters' quota length (feet). British.	Foreign.	Total.	British Percentage.	Statutory Minimum Percentage.
Long Films ..	668,527	3,039,225	3,707,752	18.03	20
Short Films ..	160,211	477,610	637,821	25.11	15

Continued from page 3

C.M.A. REPLY TO C.E.A.

Criticism of G.P. REPORT

directors and executives of all kinemas comprising its membership?" it asks.

The statement goes on to contend that membership of the C.M.A. is quite compatible with loyalty to an employer, and further states that the C.M.A. has no intention of placing its members in a position "where they might receive at the same time instructions from their employers and contrary instructions from some outside body."

Employers' Challenge

It goes on: "The implications of the Report are unmistakable—a kinema manager who is a member of the C.M.A., if he should lose his job, might find it difficult to get another job.

"Bluntly and positively, this is a threat designed to discourage them from becoming members of the Cinema Managers' Association. . . . Managers deserve all that is coming to them if they haven't the sense or the courage to take up the challenge of the employers.

"This is by no means the last that will be said in connection with this matter," the statement warns. "By issuing to the Press excerpts from this ill-advised Report, the C.E.A. has committed itself to a line of action that is likely to bring upon it the censure of every progressive body of opinion in the country."

A Guarantee to Managers

"The C.M.A. has consulted the highest industrial authorities within and without Parliament" on the C.E.A. attitude and is therefore able to give managers "this solemn and specific guarantee."

"That before the end of hostilities, and in the post-war period the salaries and conditions of employment of kinema managers will be regulated and determined, not by the unfettered dictates of exhibitors' circuits, or associations of exhibitors, but by the machinery of collective bargaining, or by a legal award imposed upon the parties after due deliberation by an established Government tribunal. The C.M.A. prefers the method of negotiation within the Trade and expresses its confidence that when initial misunderstandings, which are inherent in any new development, are dispelled, the C.E.A. will readily facilitate these discussions and co-operate with the C.M.A. in the best interests of the Industry.

"This pledge is unchallengeable. It is based on the law of the realm and, for managers, it is sufficient a reply to the C.E.A.'s improper gibe on the usefulness of the C.M.A."

Continued fr page 5

K.R.S. ANNUAL RE PORT

Renters Work for the ervices

without it the open. This in being given to requirements, are those engag repairing depar may be maintai good condition stances will allo

The Society's from supplying kinemas throug arrangements Majesty's ships Naval Shore E the Royal Naval troops (through War Office or D Service Entertain British Isles but tries throughout are fighting, and In fact, demands tain the moral of and in the armed

The Society's m gratified to be of hardly necessary consideration of th has required much and deliberation. The Society's cussions with various Government partments have continued in an sphere of friendly co-operat understanding, and this applies the Society's relationship with Cinematograph Exhibitors' Ass

No less than 42 principal meetings ten subsidiary meetings were during the year, in addition to a ber of meetings with Gover officials.

Credit List Figures

The total number of kinemas active five-day credit list is 35 seven-day, 113; on the twice-m 31; on the monthly, 6. The number of releases given each month connection with the fivesday credit is 4,685; and the average numb releases given each month in connec with the seven-day credit list, 1,5

The President, in closing his says: "I have attended during years 181 meetings of one kin another, quite apart from the informal meetings of deputations unofficial discussions mostly made necessary by the problems affecting distributors in consequence of war conditions. The position is not enviable one; particularly is this under the conditions that have operating during the past three I have nevertheless been happy in service, and my task has been fa easier by the co-operation I have from the members of the Comm whom I tender my thanks."

From Our Letter Bag

A MANAGER'S VIEW ON COMMITTEES

IT was no surprise when I read in your last issue the report that three major circuits are organising separate schemes for the election of managers to form committees for the purpose of passing on suggestions and complaints to.

This sort of thing was bound to follow the formation of the C.M.A., it is symptomatic of the trend of events in the kinema industry as in other industries. The scheme in question may produce certain small concessions to managers—I have no doubt that it will. Neither have I any doubt that it will be followed by other subtle schemes designed primarily to counter the fu newly formed

The history Union Moven offers of "co and on behal it has develo stage in spite

The truth i of this schem the real caus Monopolist C trol, which essential for k other employ own interest selves into a

IN

IRCUIT

activities L.A. the British I is replet attraction employer to its p his. at the pro are side trac of the proble tilisation and made it v ma managers to protect d organise th de union. INSIGEAN

£2,90[illegible]93 FOR LIBE[illegible]Y LOAN

Outstanc[illegible]g Results of "In Whi[illegible] We Serve"

ALTHOUG[illegible] it will be some little wh[illegible] before the general ease of [illegible] Which We Serve" the Aus[illegible]n public, State mières o[illegible] Two-Cities—Noel ard film[illegible]e materially con- ured to [illegible] success of the n Libert[illegible]an sponsored by Australia[illegible] Government. Ralph Sm[illegible] of British Domin- s Films. [illegible]d., states that by angements [illegible]ith Hoyts Theatres [illegible] and th[illegible]mmonwealth Trea- y, six spe[illegible] preview showings re arrang[illegible] of "In Which We ve" at [illegible] six State Capital es of Au[illegible]alia. At the per- mances th[illegible]ublic subscribed to e Liberty [illegible]an the staggering n of £2,9[illegible]93.

Given belo[illegible] are the amounts scribed in each city.

In Melbourne alone the astonish- sum of £1,033,635 was raised, dney £768,788, Hobart £511,680, rth £281,350, Brisbane £168,760, elaide £145,080.

Always generous, the Australian ble was stirred by the showing the film to respond to the appeal a manner which astonished the nsors.

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n "All American Revue" given by U.S. Forces at the Ambassador, gswood, Bristol, on Easter Sunday ing raised £150 in aid of the Coss- n Hospital. Original numbers were ed by the U.S.A. Regimental Band.

A group of British sailors who attended the premiere of THE CRYSTAL BALL (U.A.), at the Capitol, New York, chaired Virginia Field who is featured

MERCHANT MARINE PICTURE

Republic has received an official go-ahead signal from the U.S. Maritime Commission for Bordon Chase's script, "The Merchant Marine," a historical tale stretching from the ancient Phœnician galleys to the deeds of the Merchant Marine of to-day.

Associate producer Albert J. Cohen has already begun casting for the picture, which is scheduled to receive special treatment as the war's first great tribute to the work of the Merchant Navy through the ages.

Film Fans Hoaxed

A rather stupid hoax has been played on the people of Bridgwater by the circulation of a rumour that two famous film stars were staying in the district.

The rumour started by the discovery that the visitors' book at St. Mary's Church had been signed by Jeanette MacDonald and Deanna Durbin, with an address at St. Louis, Missouri, U.S.A. In the hope of getting the famous stars to give an address, the local Rotary Club tried to get in touch with them, but at the address at which they were supposed to be staying the only reply was that no person of either name was in residence.

EXHIBITORS OPPOSE S.O. AT ORMSKIRK

ALTHOUGH Ormskirk (S.W. Lancs) Council has decided by 13 votes to 5 to apply for a draft order enabling them to grant seven-day licences to kinemas in the Ormskirk urban district, it is doubtful if the kinema proprietors will apply for licences. Disinclination to open has already been voiced: also it is pointed out that the trustees of one kinema, the Stanley Institute, have granted only six-day leases; hence, so far as that hall is concerned, they are masters of the situation.

Request for Sunday opening facilities was made by the competent military authority and the Council felt it ought to comply.

At the Ormskirk Council meeting Coun. W. E. Jones said it was known the kinema proprietors were opposed to Sunday opening. It was purely a local measure, but might produce a big influx of people from other districts. Charity performances at the Regal on occasional Sundays had resulted in big sums being raised for charity, and the fact that the Red Cross got £200 was doing more good than opening the kinemas for local troops. He asked the Council to decide that although Sunday opening might be quite lawful, it was not expedient to have seven-days licences.

The Council voted 13 for S.O., 5 against.

Sea Hawk" (1925). The age of
venture is ahead not astern.
wise —

Photograph courtesy of Warner Brothers

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Pitchfords 2474

The Observation Window.

Overseas Portraits by Airgraph Service

THE KINE-CAMERA'S CONTRIBUTION

IT is to be anticipated that hundreds, if not thousands, of relatives of soldiers serving abroad will take advantage of the new Dufay Airphoto Service—the machinery of which is being established in key cities immediately, for subsequent extension to towns all over the country. The service is able to operate only by a special permit from the Post Office, and the overseas territories to which airphotos may be sent will only be those where the P.O. has established an airgraph service.

THOSE who wish to avail themselves of this service will attend one of the centres appointed, where at a charge of 3s. 9d. three photographs will be taken. The best of these three will be printed on an airgraph form and will be ready for dispatch under ordinary airgraph conditions.

ITS interest to the kinematograph Industry is that it has only become possible through the precision micro-photographic process known as Dufayrecord, in which kine-cameras have been adapted to take one by one small pictures of high quality which should not in the subsequent processes deteriorate so as to lose picture quality.

THIS involves the adaptation of moving picture studio lighting technique in order to obtain a good picture capable of being transferred to the special contrasty paper of the Post Office Airgraph. The picture is taken on 35-mm. film, enlarged to quarter-plate, and for transmission reduced to 16 mm. and enlarged to half quarter-plate size at the receiving end.

ANYONE with a knowledge of photographic processes will recognise the many snags which can assert themselves between the first exposure and the resultant positive picture. It is greatly to the credit of Demetre Daponte, managing director of Dufay-Chromex Ltd., and his technical research experts that they have been able to overcome them. Only familiarity with kinematography and the adaptation of a number of other processes could possibly have achieved this result.

PROJECTION design is a subject of deep interest to everyone having better film projector design at heart. My colleague, R. Howard Cricks, is to speak on this subject at the next meeting of the British Kinematograph Society on May 12 at the G.-B. Theatre, Film House, Wardour Street. Non-members may apply to the B.K.S., Dean House, Dean Street, for invitations.

THE projector, illuminant, and sound reproducer will be considered as an entity, and the requirements of the exhibitor and projectionist will be discussed. The principal essentials are that the equipment shall be capable of producing and maintaining a specified intensity and evenness of illumination on the screen, with sharp focus; that it shall cause the minimum of wear to the film; that the sound reproducer shall produce sound of the finest quality, and shall be adaptable to probable advances in the art; and that the equipment shall provide the utmost convenience in operation, and call for the minimum of maintenance. Existing methods of attaining these ends will be discussed, and certain developments proposed.

B.K.S. members will note that the meeting, which opens at 6 p.m., will be preceded at 5.30 by the annual general meeting. Active members only are entitled to attend this meeting.

J. BENSON.

HOW ARMY KINEMATOGRAPHY HAS GROWN

Informative R.P.S. Paper

THE growth of kinematography in the Army, from the first tentative applications as far back as 1910, to the present enormous organisation of the Army Kinematograph Service, was the subject of a paper by Capt. E. Stuart to the R.P.S. Kinematograph Section at its April meeting.

In the last war a few mobile units, comprising projectors and generator permanently installed in a truck, provided entertainment for the troops in France. The production of films for training purposes was not commenced until 1923 when a small unit was formed in the R.A.O.C.

The possibilities of the film for instructional purposes were not fully appreciated until the mechanisation of the Army, when a gradually increasing programme of training films was envisaged. Films were reduced to 16mm., and runon Kodascope silent projectors. From 1932 onwards. a number of sound projectors were installed; but as late as 1939 the whole of the output for a year was not equal to one week's output at the present time.

A Big Step Forward

In 1940, Paul Kimberley was appointed Honorary Adviser on Kinematography, and complete plans were drawn up for the supply of equipment, films and projectionists. This, however, was just after Dunkirk, when every factory was working at top pressure on bringing the Army back to fighting strength, and when projection equipment was difficult to obtain. Ordinary Army lorries had to be adapted. A number of American projectors were in use, but having regard to the difficulty in obtaining American equipment and spares, and keeping in mind the possibility of America entering the war and needing all her own output, it was decided to purchase British equipment.

The next problem was personnel. Ordinary military demands made it impossible to secure most of the projectionists already in the Army, and it was necessary to train low-category men.

A civilian organisation was set up for training; the course lasts six weeks and covers on the theoretical side elementary electricity, sound optics, and other subjects. After trade test, projectionists are graded as either Grade II—the actual projectionist—or Grade III—the assistant projectionist and driver. A.T.S. were also trained for 16 mm.

Distribution Plans

For distribution purposes, every command has its separate organisation, and each command is divided into sections, each self-contained, with library, workshops and fully stocked stores. Films are available covering all subjects.

Maintenance of equipment is divided into three stages. The projectionist is trained to do running repairs and valve replacement. Should trouble occur beyond his capabilities to correct, he can call upon the section engineer. Finally there are the centralised workshops at the Central Depot. Out of the many hundreds of machines of one particular type in use only two in a period of 12 months have had to be returned to the makers.

Training is not the only function of the A.K.S. Training films shown to isolated units may be followed by an entertainment programme.

Post-War Possibilities

A new technique of training films has been evolved which will be of use after the war in education and training in civil life. It is envisaged that the A.K.S. will remain an integral part of the Army.

Finally reference may be made to the men whose skill and courage contributed to the making of films such as "Victory." These men are equipped and maintained by the A.K.S.

Capt. Stuart concluded his paper by projecting some specimen films, "Booby Traps" designed not only to teach troops how to deal with enemy traps, but also to induce a properly suspicious frame of mind, a diagrammatic film illustrating the ignition system of a six-cylinder engine; and "K.B." a film which has been widely distributed by A.R.P. workers showing how to deal with unexploded bombs.

POOL CARBONS

SH OWMANSHIP IN WAR TIME

Conducted by THE SHOWMAN

A Fe ure Run Under the Auspices of the "Ki ." Company of Showmen

I HAVE ferred more than once to exhibitor-oysters who refus o talk to the Trade Press. I encountered another of the ge last week. He met me with the blunt comment: "I have thing to tell you," and then proceeded to take up half-a hour of my time discussing the stage, the film business d a number of other topics unconnected (or almost so) with s own hall. At the end of our chat he bade me good-bye with the reminder: "And don't forget, you haven't n me here to-day." This is the very negation of old-tir showmanship, when the go-getter manager was only too glad to welcome the roving scribe and tell him almost ore than the truth about the kinema. These "mum' men are rare, but the strange thing is that my uncommunicative friend has a relative in the business who is equally s cretive about his doings. Evidently it runs in the family!

Unmissable

A outstanding display, visible to everyone passing through the main Erdswell road was constructed by Fred Hawkins of the Regal, Camberwell.

In addition to its value as a notice impossible to miss, it cost nothing for the labour, for the paper was saved by using old posters and joining them together to form a poster 33 ft. by 22 ft.

Mr. Hawkins is fortunate in having keen and talented members on his publicity staff, who accepted responsibility for completion of this poster in their spare time.

Displays of this kind are useful, as they not only provide valuable display, but conserve paper, a great consideration in these days of restricted supply.

Honour Where, etc.

HONOUROUS tribute to his staff for their helpfulness in exploitation for "I Married a Witch" is given by A. P. Patrick of the Odeon, Woolwich. He says: "This display was done by Mr. Hazell (assistant manager), with the help of the chief operator, George Hall.

"The Witch is a model borrowed from one of the local drapers, and the hair was set by one of the operettes (Mrs. Bannister) in the true Veronica Lake style.

The bowl at the side has a revolving fan over an electric light, giving the appearance of something burning. The background is black, with flames setting the model out in relief.

The display caused great enjoyment for the children, as the model was so life-like and the hair set in that style was very much like the star in question. The adults also found much amusement in this display, as the first impression gained was that the model was a living person and many waited for it to move."

"Showman" adds his congratulations.

ght: Mr. E South Ame vay, Exmo (manager)

s inviting bids for parakeet at the left: A. Vickery oking the offers

Getting the Bird

MANAGER A. VICKERY, of the Savoy Cinema, Exmouth, one of the recently acquired picture houses of the Mayfair Circuit (Control), Ltd., got "the bird." But it was the reverse of the general implication of the phrase.

It happened in this way.

Arrangements had been made to auction a South American parakeet during one of the "Services Entertain" shows, and was designed to raise funds for the Aid to Russia Fund.

Mr. Brooks, a well-known local auctioneer, consented to take bids, while Manager Vickery assisted him with the "book." There was keen competition, in which the parakeet made itself heard, incoherent at times, perhaps, but none the less audibly. However, in the end it found itself not only in new ownership, but the means of raising no less than £13 8s. 6d. for a splendid objective.

Statecraft

THERE were several items of publicity in the great foyer of the Kilburn State when I looked in a week or so back, but dominating them all was an easel board, some 8 ft. square, painted bright blue with a sprayed repetition pattern in several different tints of the same colour. Mounted on this were 11 silver-edged frames containing coloured portraits of some of the leading players in Paramount's "Star Spangled Rhythm" around a couple of coloured litho. advert. panels giving full lists of the performers and other details of the production. On the other side of the foyer was a smaller, hand-written notice listing the seven song hits of the film, and additional publicity for the same picture was posted at other strategic points around the pay-boxes. It was the large splash of bright colour provided by the main board, however, which made it the centre of observation.

Bold outdoor announcement made from scrap posters by R. Hawkins and his staff of the Regal, Camberwell, for YANKEE DOODLE DANDY (Warner)

Good Teasers

IN his exploitation for the Columbia film, Lionel S. Stevens, National, Chatham (G.-B.), went all out to make the town "My Sister Eileen" conscious by starting early with teaser adverts. Two weeks before play date he inserted a teaser worded "£45,000 for a story? More next week." The following week another teaser worded "£45,000 was paid for the story of 'My Sister Eileen.'" which also gave play date and full announcement.

Two window displays were secured. Messrs. Woolworth's gave a front window display of ladies' stockings; these were backed by a renter's quad and art show cards with "My Sister Eileen selects her stockings here." Chatham Co-operative also gave a main front window display with new season's models, two girls being dressed as near as possible to the star's photos on the displayed stills. Art publicity panels worded "My Sister Eileen selects her clothes here" were supported by a full announcement panel neatly pinned on a suitcase standing beside the models.

£600 from "Itma" Concert

A SUM of £600 will be handed over to the Prisoners of War Fund by Jack X. Prendergast by reason of the charity concert at the Rialto, York, last Sunday week, when all the stars of the famous "Itma" broadcasts, and, of course, the film, appeared. The idea of the "Itma" personalities appearing in one programme—incidentally, for the first time—belongs to Gerald Cohen, prominent figure in the Yorkshire entertainment world and journalistic, too, and he was responsible also for bringing them together—a notable addition to his unique record in respect of stars and potential stars on charity concerts for a long period. Tommy Handley, Jack Train, Horace Percival, Sydney Keith, Dorothy Summers, Dino Galvani, Fred Yule, with Alan Paul as accompanist, all made the journey to York, and were presented in a manner which made play upon the "Itma" characters and familiar sayings.

Sarongs in Sheffield

MANAGER of Southey Green's Forum in Sheffield, L. Cellini, reaped a well-merited batch of Press notices for an original Lamour publicity angle.

Fifty Sheffield girls paraded on the stage after the showing of "The Fleet's In," each of them wearing the famous Lamour sarong. A committee of ten members of the audience then selected first, second and third prizewinners—girls most resembling the star herself.

Apart from the publicity slope, the scheme turned out to be a good box-office proposition, drawing queues of enthusiastic admirers and workmates—many of the entrants being fellow factory workers. The winner, Nancy Gregory, was rewarded with a crisp "fiver" and the additional thrill of a special write-up in the Sheffield Press.

The Nine Men

DURING the week the film "Nine Men" was shown at the Empire Cinema, Mansfield, Mr. Denne, the manager, received subscriptions from local tradesmen to enable nine men to be presented on the stage each night with gifts. On each occasion the Mayor or other important personages made the presentation. The men chosen to receive the gifts were all veterans of the last war. This kindly gesture was organised to show that they were not forgotten.

Another Victory

THE opening performance of "Desert Victory" at the Regal, Kettering, was in the nature of a Civic occasion, for Manager Jack Goldy's invitation was accepted by the Mayor and Mayoress, members of the council, of the M. of I. committee, by heads of all Kettering's public services, and many of the town's notable residents.

The foyer and front of the house were gaily decorated with bunting and an exhibition of M. of I. pictures proved of interest to patrons.

Continued on next page

Artistic and lifelike display for I MARRIED A WITCH (United Artists) in foyer of Odeon, Woolwich

Attractive front-of-house display devised by Patrick Reed, Odeon, Portsmouth, to give boost to his screening of FOOTLIGHT SERENADE (20th-Fox)

Continued from previous page

Detachments from the A.T.C., Sea Cadets Corps and the Army Cadets Corps paraded for inspection, and the week's showing presented a favourable opportunity to make daily collections on behalf of the local branch of the Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families' Association.

Jack Goldy is justifiably proud of the success accruing to his efforts.

Supernatural Stunt

IF you can't carry out publicity on the front of your house, on hoardings and in local shop windows, there's still no reason why you shouldn't use your screen for the purpose. Allen Fryer remember d this recently when thinking out a notion to advertise "Hold That Ghost!" at the Troxy, Stepney. During a Christmas party show some years ago he managed, with the active collaboration of the projection department, to devise a very eerie optical spectre, an elusive, formless figure which came and went, snivered around the screen and performed a sort of psychic "shimmy." He brought this phantom out of cold storage, or wherever it has been kept in the interval, and screened it again as an adjunct to his film announcement, with excellent effect.

Alfreton's Old Salt

IT was inevitable that "In Which We Serve," with all its potential snowmanship angles, would receive a terrific share of exploitation. It is equally unfortunate that at this later stage of the picture's run readers of these columns should have their minds set on ideas relating to later products. In spite of this, Bertie Gordon Smith is still worthy of mention for the campaign he made at the Empire, Alfreton.

Naturally, most of his efforts took the same lines as have been mentioned many times previously, but his stunt of building a model of an up-to-date destroyer (with the help of his staff) 16 ft. long from odds and ends, mounting this on an undercarriage, which perambulated the town in the charge of an old naval pensioner, who happily was a near double of the Player's cigarette personality, and who, during his parade round the streets, collected £3 13s. in coppers for the "Spitfire" Fund, is deserving of congratulationary comment.

N.F.S. Firewatch

THE parade of a large contingent of firemen and firewomen drawn from such widely divergent districts as Kingston in one direction and Guildford in the other, marching through Esher, headed by the N.F.S. drum and fife band from Battersea, aroused great interest in the screening of "Fires Were Started" at the Embassy, Esher.

Manager T. S. Russell's hard work in organising this special presentation for the benefit of the fire services of the surrounding district brought many messages of thanks and appreciation from the N.F.S. and undoubtedly brought in additional patronage from those curious to see what had been the cause of such a parade.

Tyneside Display

ON the opening night of "In Which We Serve" at the Ritz, Gateshead, the Mayor (Mrs. Mary Gunn), first lady Mayor of the borough, and her daughter the Mayoress, were in attendance, with the whole of the Town Council and Chief Constable.

A parade of Sea Cadets was inspected by Rear Admiral Wellwood Maxwell, Flag Officer in Charge Tyne Area, who made an appeal on behalf of the British Sailors' Society.

The house front was gaily decorated with Allied flags, a pennant in international code was hoisted the length of the tower, and the main vestibule resembled a ship's deck, complete with pinnacle, Carley float and rafts, kindly lent by Messrs. Hawthorn Leslie, Ltd., the Admiralty contractors; this firm also lent a number of framed photographs of famous H.M. ships they have built.

Two shop tie-ups were arranged and stalls erected on both foyers in the theatre for the sale of National Savings stamps and certificates.

Chelmsford Nauticality

FOR his presentation of "The Navy Comes Through" at the Ritz (Odeon), Chelmsford, Manager Francis W. Minde obtained the full co-operation of the Chelmsford Sea Cadets. Over 100 of these lads paraded through the town and were inspected outside the theatre by the C.O., Lieut. J. G. Stutfield, R.N.V.R., before appearing in a special stage prologue prior to the picture. Flags and a big bunting display in the foyer and outside the theatre created widespread interest.

The nautical atmosphere was also in evidence the following week when "The Silver Fleet" was the star attraction. Prior to each performance of the picture, Mr. Minde was fortunate to secure the personal appearance on the stage of Gerald Zeepvat, an officer in the Dutch Merchant Navy, who was on sick leave. He talked of conditions as he had seen them in Nazi-occupied Holland, conditions which are vividly depicted in "The Silver Fleet." Mr. Minde, who introduced Mr. Zeepvat to the large audiences, also paid a tribute to the blind actor, Esmond Knight, whose brilliant performance as the brutal Gestapo officer is such a striking feature of the film.

Exeter's Armada

"THE Navy Comes Through" and "The Silver Fleet" coming close together at the Exeter Odeon gave manager Cliff Gwilliam a double exploitation opportunity with the same material, and, incidentally, in the first instance also provided a useful media for publicity for a twelve-months-old corps in the city—the Sea Scouts.

With "The Navy Comes Through" he was able to give the first public introduction to the Scouts, who, in their turn, were able to reveal to the citizens that, among other things, they have a band of considerable merit.

Parading some 100 strong, the Scouts, at the invitation of Mr. Gwilliam, attended the Odeon "Services" night feature. While the band were giving their "turn" moved along t collection for (R. Glave Sa ings a civic to appeal with h tally gave a through its s Snire of the that Topsham, with the exc largest number was indissolubl Service.

For "The Scouts again angle by givi their prowess a themselves off t sequences of th screen.

the stage, the gangways and funds. The M gave the pro and in endowing ficial benison in under that Ex as capital of Kings and the port of Exeter, of London, ships to the Arm ked with the

Fleet," the rlined the demonstration ndsmen, and tage as the pi icture came o

Cash[illegible]g in on Broa[illegible]casting

ON Sunday, C ing on th outstanding criti This subject h the Ritz, Leeds, had a slide prep screen with the

"Did you hea B.B.C.'s film cri of 'Casablanca' jeune; 'Casablan theatre. Watch

Lejeune, broad ck's films, gave of "Casablan due for showing anager S. R. R and thrown o owing words:

Miss C. A. Le s, wonderful fe Thanks. Mi is booked t the date."

The same proc ure was ad take advantage of Saturday's broad and another slide made reading: you are not coming to this theatre Saturday, May 1, then between p.m. listen-in to one hour of Doodle Dandy.' It's coming theatre."

Lino Lining

ON a recent visit to the South Nor Central 1 was interested to h that proprietor R. Lever had cu blanked-out a 16-sheet board o front of the premises with linoleum the jaspe variety in brown tones this unobtrusive material he fastened three rectangular fra arranged symmetrically, to hold bills. The arrangement, guaranteed last a long time in all weathers artistically effective, struck me as great improvement upon the more arrangement of monochrome p backing.

Mr. Lever told me that he regu includes in his programmes slides ing with Ministry of Food and Min of Agriculture announcements items are received in bulletin form the Ministries and typed on p slides on the premises.

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Officers of the H. G. in the foyer of the Gaumont, B[illegible]aple, against a background of English landscape as depicted in WEN[illegible]HE DAY WELL? (United Artists)

hallenge cup and winning targets H.G. rifle competition displayed foyer of Gaumont, Stroud, in nnection with WENT THE DAY WELL? (United Artists)

ircuit Managers' Fine Efforts

connection with the exploitation ntest for G.-B. theatre managers Went the Day Well?" some very campaigns were put over by gers of the Albany Ward Circuit West Country. As a matter of fact, f the managers on that circuit— Sherwood, of the Empire, Carcarried off the first prize of £10. apart from the prizewinner, l other managers carried out some campaigns. Naturally, in view of ature of the film, the co-operation Home Guard was one of the chief s, and all the managers report uch co-operation was readily forthg from all the officers and men local units.

ud

the entrants introduced some novel into their exploitation, and many in the campaigns were worked new angles. A. G. Carpenter, of aumont, Stroud, arranged a rifle ng competition for the local unit Home Guard, the 7th Gloucesters, ze being a silver challenge cup, with the targets of the winning on, was on view in the foyer of atre prior to the showing of the Mr. Carpenter also had a 600-ft. taken of battalion at their morning parade, rushed it off to on, and had a copy of the print on Monday time to screen it at st perform e of "Went the Day Prior the screening of the which w entitled "We Are y," the dr s and bugles of the ion appea on the stage and ed a fanf The performance ttended by ome Guard officers. ical drawin for the vestibule dis- were done y "Ken," formerly nist of the *rs of the World*, who w in the R.A.F. and stationed in eighbourho

ltenham

l Bayliss, anager of the Gau- Cheltenha included a very effecpening cer ny in his campaign. afternoon band of the R.A.F. s marched the theatre and d the Gene Salute as the R.A.F. n was hoist to the mast-head on heatre by F. signallers immey before ti reening of the film. and then red the theatre and wed round uditorium on to the where th played "Reveille" gave a fa e to announce the In the eve the Mayor and the for the bo h attended the perce. The nd appeared daily ghout the Bayliss g to be a bottle of pre-war ent Fu ed for the R.A.F. and after some spirited bidding it realised £25. In addition, collections were taken by members of the W.A.A.F. for the Fund, the total sum raised at the theatre being £144 19s. 11d. On the Friday evening Lieut. Hannam Clarke, who appears in the film, visited the theatre and appeared on the stage, when the theatre organist played selections of some of the popular songs of the last war and of this, which were heartily sung by the audience. Mr. Bayliss also arranged some good preliminary publicity for the picture. The week previous to the play-date before screening the trailer of the film some of the actual slides of Bairnsfather's cartoons shown at the Oxford Theatre, London, during the run of "The Better 'Ole" in 1918 were screened. Mr. Bayliss also had some good shop-window displays, and as the result of a special appeal collected 200 packs of cards for the Services.

Barnstaple

Manager A. M. Carpenter, of the Gaumont, Barnstaple, is an officer in the Home Guard, and he organised a "Went the Day Well?" shooting competition for his battalion. By special permission of the commanding officer, attention to the film as being of special Home Guard interest was made in battalion orders. On the opening night Mr. Carpenter had as his guests a number of Home Guard officers, headed by Col. G. B. Oerton, T.D., D.L., the commanding officer.

The foyer of the theatre was arranged with painted scenery to represent a typical English village. Mr. Carpenter overcame the restriction regarding the issue of circulars by using 500 date stubs from desk calendars which had been collected for scrap. He had the blank side of these printed in red with the following message: "It will be a red letter day when you see Leslie Banks in 'Went the Day Well?' at the Gaumont." He received very good support from the local newspapers and had some excellent shop window displays.

Cinderford

A. W. Shaw, of the Palace, Cinderford, had some good shop window displays, and he had the full co-operation of his staff, who worked wholeheartedly with him to produce the material for the displays. One of his usherettes evidently possesses artistic ability of no mean order, for she produced some excellent paintings as backgrounds for some of the displays. For instance, at one shop Mr. Shaw erected the barricade scene, and through the open casement windows could be seen a glimpse of Bramley End, painted by the young lady in question. The front of the house was gaily decorated with flags, and on the Sunday previous to the play date a preview was given to members of the Home Guard, who also provided a guard of honour for the opening night.

Chippenham

H. J. Falls, manager of the Gaumont, Chippenham, who has been in the entertainment business all his life, starting with Charlie Chaplin in "Casey's Court," and who has played in pantomime at Drury Lane with Marie Lloyd and Dan Leno, wrote and composed a song for the occasion, "Britain's Home Guard," which soon achieved local popularity. Speeches about the film were given from the stage prior to the showing of the picture by the commanding officer of the local Home Guard, and on the Wednesday there was a special rally of Home Guards at the theatre. Sentries in full battle dress were posted one on each side of the pay-box during the run. Mr. Falls also had some tie-ups with local shops.

In addition to a good front of the house display S. H. Bowen, of the Coliseum, Newport, had a linen banner fixed in a prominent position near a bridge in the centre of the town over which at least 15,000 people pass daily.

Mr. Bowen secured some very fine window displays with some of the leading firms in the town, including chemist, optician, music store, furnisher and a radio dealer. Special invitations were sent out by the senior officers of the Home Guard for the first night of the run.

Every encouragement was given to the managers by the circuit publicity chief, R. H. Etchells, who was always ready to give advice on any particular point, or to help in any way.

RELEASES FOR MAY 31, 1943

Compiled by A. W. OWEN

"CHINA GIRL" (20th Century-Fox)

CERT. A. Length 8,615 ft. Reg. No. F.6194. Reviewed in KINE. March 11, 1943.

STARS.—Gene Tierney, George Montgomery, Lynn Bari.

ATMOSPHERE.—Romantic melodrama set in China and Burma preceding the hectic period of the bombing of Pearl Harbour, the film commencing with a mass murder of Chinese prisoners by the Japanese.

ORGAN.—"Prelude in C Sharp Minor," Rachmaninoff (Hawkes), with adaptation from the piano-solo copy.

NON-SYNC.—As organ, recorded on Columbia D.X.87 by Sir Henry J. Wood and Symphony Orchestra

"WHEN JOHNNY COMES MARCHING HOME" (G.F.D.)

CERT. U. Length 6,634 ft. Reg. No. F.6225. Reviewed in KINE. March 18, 1943.

STARS.—Allan Jones, June Frazee, Gloria Jean.

ATMOSPHERE.—Novelty comedy musicale, in which an over-fêted war hero makes valiant attempts to keep out of the limelight. Songs and individual stage acts are interspersed.

ORGAN.—"When Johnny Comes Marching Home" (Walsh Holmes), with adaptation from the piano-solo copy.

NON-SYNC.—As organ, recorded on Columbia D.B.464 by Harold Williams and the B.B.C. Choir.

"THREE HEARTS FOR JULIA" (M-G-M)

CERT. U. Length 8,092 ft. Reg. No. F.6179. Reviewed in KINE. March 11, 1943.

STARS.—Ann Sothern, Melvyn Douglas.

ATMOSPHERE.—Marital comedy, in which a foreign correspondent's wife is the conductor of a women's symphony orchestra and therefore has no further time for him. Orchestral intermissions are a feature.

ORGAN.—"La Gioconda," "Dance of the Hours," Ponchinelli, with adaptation from the orchestral piano-conductor copy.

NON-SYNC.—As organ, recorded on H.M.V. C.2812 by the Boston Promenade Orchestra.

Convalescence of "Claire"

Organists will be glad to hear of a note received from "Claire" a few days ago stating that she was now well on the road to recovery, but it will be still a few weeks before she is able to take up her kinema engagements again.

A. W. O.

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ORGAN MUSIC AT MARBLE ARCH

Gilbert Handy Still at the Console

Calling in at the Regal (A.B.C.), Marble Arch, last week, I had an interesting chat with my old brother-organist Gilbert Handy, who is still resident solo organist at this theatre, having been here 4½ years out of the 14 years' continuous service with the A.B.C., being, I believe, their senior organist. The musical policy of the management is that the organist gives recitals on Sundays from 3.0 till 3.30 p.m. and from 6.0 to 6.20 p.m. A varied and well-contrasted programme is given, ranging from popular classics to light orchestral works of modern composers, and, when possible, direct reference to forthcoming films in the current or early future bookings of films. These recitals are a very popular permanent feature of these special Sunday film programmes, and are likely to remain so.

In regard to weekday organ recitals, these are governed entirely by the length of the film programme and the hours the theatre is open, so that they vary both in number and time allowance. The current recital was given twice, and contained "The Show Boat" Selection, Weber's "Invitation to the Waltz," the "Manhattan Serenade," and Paul Robeson's vocal record "Glory Day," which together formed a perfect musical tone colour atmosphere for the star film, "Tales of Manhattan," and might well be noted by provincial organists when this film is screened at their individual houses. It is good to be able to report that this fine old organ is in such capable hands.

A. W. O.

FORTHCOMING TRADE SHOWS

DATE.	TIME.	PLACE.	TITLE OF FILMS.	SHOWN BY	STARS.
		LONDON.			
Thur., May 6	10.30 a.m.	Leicester Sq. T.	Forever and a Day	RKO-Radio ...	Brian ...
Fri., ,, 7	10.30 a.m.	Cambridge ...	They Got Me Covered	RKO-Radio ...	Dorot...
Mon., ,, 10	10.30 a.m.	Own Private T....	The Edge of Darkness	Warner	Errol ...
Tues., ,, 11	2.30 p.m.	G.B. Theatre ...	Forbidden Trails	Pathe	Buck ...
,, ,, 11	2.30 p.m.	G.B. Theatre ...	There Goes the Bride	Equity	Jessie ...
Wed., ,, 12	2.30 p.m.	G.B. Theatre ...	Silent Witness	Pathe	Otto ...
,, ,, 12	10.30 a.m.	Own Theatre ...	Keep 'Em Slugging	G.F.D.	Hunt...
,, ,, 12	11 a.m.	G.B. Theatre ...	No Lady	Equity	Lupin...
,, ,, 12	11 a.m. & 2.30 p.m. ...	Own Theatre ...	Assignment in Brittany	M-G-M	Pierre ...
,, . 12	10.30 a.m. & 2.30 p.m.	Century	The Moon is Down	20th Century-Fox	Cedric ...
		BIRMINGHAM.			
Fri., May 7	10.30 a.m.	Scala	Lucky Jordan	Paramount ...	Alan L...
Tues., ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Forum	Air Force	Warner ...	John ...
,, ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Gaumont ...	Forever and a Day	RKO-Radio ...	Brian ...
Wed., ,, 12	10.30 a.m.	Forum	They Got Me Covered	RKO-Radio ...	Dorothy ...
		CARDIFF.			
Fri., May 7	11 a.m.	Odeon	Lucky Jordan	Paramount ...	Alan L...
,, ,, 7	10.30 a.m.	Park Hall ...	Rhythm of the Islands and Mug Town.	G.F.D.	———
Tues., ,, 11	10.45 a.m.	Empire	How's About It	G.F.D.	Andrews Sisters
,, ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Odeon	Forever and a Day	RKO-Radio ...	Brian ...
Wed., ,, 12	10.30 a.m.	Olympia	They Got Me Covered	RKO-Radio ...	Dorothy ...
		DERBY.			
Mon., May 10	2.30 p.m.	Coliseum ...	Fury of the North...	New Realm ...	———
		GLASGOW.			
Fri., May 7	10.30 a.m.	La Scala ...	Rhythm of the Islands and Mug Town.	G.F.D.	———
Tues., ,, 11	10.45 a.m.	New Savoy ...	How's About It	G.F.D.	Andrews Sisters
,, ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Paramount ...	Forever and a Day	RKO-Radio ...	Brian Aherne ...
		LEEDS.			
Fri., May 7	10.30 a.m.	Odeon	Lucky Jordan	Paramount ...	Alan Ladd ...
Tues., ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Ritz	Air Force	Warner	John Garfield...
,, ,, 11	10.45 a.m.	Tower	Rhythm of the Islands	G.F.I.	Allan Jones ...
,, ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Odeon	Forever and a Day	RKO-Radio ...	Brian Aherne
Wed., ,, 12	10.45 a.m.	Tower	Mug Town	G.F.D.	Billy Halop ...
		LIVERPOOL.			
Fri., May 7	10.45 a.m.	Paramount ...	Lucky Jordan	Paramount ...	Alan Ladd ...
Tues., ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Forum	Air Force	Warner	John Garfield ...
,, ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Scala	Rhythm of the Islands and Mug Town.	G.F.D.	———
,, ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Paramount ...	Forever and a Day	RKO-Radio ...	Brian Aherne ...
Thur., ,, 13	10.45 a.m.	Trocadero ...	Miss London, Ltd....	G.F.D.	Arthur Askey...
		MANCHESTER.			
Fri., May 7	10.45 a.m.	Gaiety	Rhythm of the Islands	G.F.D.	Allan Jones ...
,, ,, 7	10.45 a.m.	Theatre Royal ...	Bowery at Midnight	Pathe	Bela Lugosi ...
,, ,, 7	10.45 a.m.	Odeon	Russian Guerillas	A.B.F.D.	——— ...
Tues., ,, 11	10.45 a.m.	Gaiety	Mug Town	G.F.D.	Billy Halop ...
,, ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Odeon	Forever and a Day	RKO-Radio ...	Brian Aherne
Wed., ,, 12	10.45 a.m. & 2.30 p.m.	Private Theatre...	Air Force	Warner	John Garfield
,, ,, 12	10.45 a.m.	Gaumont ...	How's About It ?	G.F.D.	Andrews Sisters
		NEWCASTLE.			
Fri., May 7	10.30 a.m.	Essoldo	Rhythm of the Islands and Mug Town.	G.F.D.	——— ...
,, ,, 7	10.45 a.m.	Odeon	The Bells Go Down	United Artists ...	Tommy Trinder ...
Tues., ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Haymarket ...	They Got Me Covered	RKO-Radio ...	Dorothy Lamour ...
,, ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Odeon	Forever and a Day	RKO-Radio ...	Brian Aherne ...
Wed., ,, 12	10.30 a.m.	Odeon	Lucky Jordan	Paramount ...	Alan Ladd ...
		NOTTINGHAM.			
Fri., May 7	10.45 a.m.	News Theatre ...	Rhythm of the Islands	G.F.D.	Allan Jones ...
,, ,, 7	10.30 a.m.	Ritz	The Story of Stalingrad	Paramount ...	——— ...
Tues., ,, 11	10.45 a.m.	News Theatre ...	Mug Town	G.F.D.	Billy Halop ...
Wed., ,, 12	10.30 a.m.	Ritz	Forever and a Day	RKO-Radio ...	Brian Aherne ...
		SHEFFIELD.			
Fri., May 7	10.30 a.m.	Cinema House ...	Rhythm of the Islands and Mug Town.	G.F.D.	——— ...
,, ,, 7	10.30 a.m.	Union Street ...	The Story of Stalingrad	Paramount ...	——— ...
Tues., ,, 11	10.30 a.m.	Regent	Commandos Strike at Dawn ...	Columbia	Paul M...
Wed., ,, 12	10.30 a.m.	Regent	Get Cracking	Columbia	George ...
Thur., ,, 13	10.30 a.m.	Regent	A Night to Remember -	Columbia	Loretta ...

OUR ROAMING REP.
—says—

Six-day Week

BY exercising his persuasive powers on his head office, John Charlton has persuaded them to modify the previous policy of three-day bookings at the Barnet Cinema in favour of six-day ones and is finding it advantageous. The reason for the change may not be apparent at first glance, but it must be explained that there are two Odeons in Barnet, of which the Cinema is one. Consequently, circuit bookings go to the newer, larger hall at the foot of the hill and the Cinema has hitherto been getting other pictures—sometimes not on first release. The new policy enables Mr. Charlton to pick films from a wider range and to secure more winners. He opened the new arrangement, for instance, with "In Which We Serve" (Br. Lion) and has followed it with productions of a similar calibre, to the delight of his patrons and the benefit of the pay-box. Mr. Charlton has spent many years in the theatrical world, and in that time has acquired a shrewd judgment of what the public appreciates. He is now using this experience to suggest to his booking department the pictures which he thinks will "ring the bell" in Barnet, and I gather that so far he has proved a good judge.

Youth or Age?

IT is difficult in these days to know which kind of staff prove more satisfactory in practice—the youngsters or the veterans. The former have a habit of staying for a short while to acquire experience and then going elsewhere for more money, whereas the latter are inclined to be tough and unadaptable. This applies more particularly, perhaps, to the women. One manager with whom I discussed the problem recently put it succinctly as follows: "Which is better—a young crab or an old one?" This may sound harsh treatment, but doubtless it is based ... male side it ... fairly satisfactor... by an experience... how to handle ... other hand, tho... careful training ... able than adole... to fit in with ... routine of the ...

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